



HOWNIKAN

Giwségises / November 2016

Top Photo: Black Mesa State Park located in the panhandle of Oklahoma.

Potawatomi traditions pre-date Thanksgiving



While almost all Citizen Potawatomi celebrate Thanksgiving in some manner, the tradition of a post-summer festival pre-dates the American holiday.

Page 5

Meet the CPN Supreme Court



The Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Tribal Supreme Court justices hail from around the U.S., but for the first time, all are members of the tribe.

Page 12

PSRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
SPRINGFIELD, MO
PERMIT NO. 96

CPCDC awarded \$25 million for infrastructure in rural Oklahoma

The Citizen Potawatomi Community Development received \$25 million in funding from the [Obama Administration's Community Facilities Re-Lending Program](#).

"This is the largest single award the CPCDC has ever received," noted CPCDC Director Shane Jett. "We can put these funds to work for rural Oklahomans across the state for hospitals, police stations, community centers or a number of public uses."

The USDA program allocates long-term, low interest loan funding for community facilities in rural American communities with a population less than 20,000. The funds are distributed by the federal agency to eligible re-lenders such as the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation, who then re-loan those funds for the construction or maintenance of community infrastructure.

Community Facilities Programs provide loans for essential community infrastructure, so that people who live and work in rural areas can enjoy the same basic quality of life and services as those in urban and metropolitan areas.

Jett, a former state legislator from Tecumseh, explained the importance of the funding opportunities for small Oklahoma communities.

"The facilities are vital for lightly populated, rural communities where infrastructure investment may be lacking and a large tax base to fund these projects just isn't possible."



CPCDC Senior Commercial Lender Bob Crothers, Director Shane Jett and Assistant Director Cyndi Logsdon were on hand to receive the award from the USDA.

Established in 2003, the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation has grown into an important financial institution serving rural Oklahoma and Indian Country. The \$25 million award from the USDA comes on the heels of a separate \$1 million in funding it recently received through the U.S. Treasury's Community Development Financial Institution Program to provide small business lending.

Funds from the USDA Community Facilities Program can be distributed to applicants that are public bodies such as municipal or county governments, community-based nonprofit corporations and federally recognized tribal nations. The facilities built using the funds must be located

in rural areas such as cities, villages, townships, towns and communities on federally recognized tribal lands and a population below 20,000.

Approved facilities include those for public safety such as police and fire, public healthcare, nursing homes, town halls, child care and community centers, museums and libraries, as well as public works services such as vehicles, equipment and street improvements.

Those interested in learning more about the funds available for these and many other uses are encouraged to contact the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation at 405-878-4697 or visit www.cpcdc.org.

Community Development Corp. has \$1 million for Native American small business

With the American economy creeping along at anemic growth rates, traditional lending institutions continue to hold back on loans for small businesses. Stepping into that gap to provide funding opportunities for largely underserved populations are community development financial institutions like the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation. The Shawnee, Oklahoma-based CDFI recently received a funding award for the next fiscal year from the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

"These funds are vital to our mission of providing support, both financial and business planning, to Native American businesses," said CPCDC

Director Shane Jett. "Our organization is just more than a decade old, and we've established a reputation as a competent and stable supporter of doing business in Indian Country. This latest award is a reflection of that."

In late September, the CPCDC received a \$1 million award to continue its work of providing financial products and counseling services to tribal members and employees nationwide as well as Native American owned-businesses throughout Oklahoma.

The United States Treasury awarded more than \$185 million to community development financing for low-in-

come communities in late September, with \$15.5 million allotted for the Native American CDFI Assistance Program, which facilitates the creation and advancement of Native CDFIs.

"With today's awards, the CDFI Fund has crossed the \$2 billion threshold in collective investments to CDFIs and Native CDFIs through the CDFI and NACA Programs," said CDFI Fund Director Annie Donovan in a press release.

The Bank of Cherokee County, Inc., the Cherokee Nation Economic Development Trust Authority, Chicka-

Continued on page 15

An interview with former PLP Elan Pochedley

Slavin family descendent Elan Pochedley was a student in the Potawatomi Leadership Program in 2012. Since then, he has used the information he learned to gain internships and support Native American interests. Pochedley, who graduated as a PLP one year after his sister Lakota went through the program, answered the following questions about how the program impacted his life.

Why did you choose to do the PLP?

"I chose to participate in the Potawatomi Leadership Program because I wanted to meet and work with other Citizen Potawatomi who are my age. I also wanted to observe how the tribe's administration functioned because I grew up far away from central Oklahoma."

What did you learn from the program?

"During the program, my most important lessons came from other PLPs and from the tribe's attorney, Gregory Quinlan. Throughout my stay at the Sharp House, I got to know many brilliant people. The one thing we held in common, aside from being enrolled Citizen Potawatomi,

was the impulse to learn more about our culture and our history. Quinlan introduced me to tribal law and Federal Indian Policy – a legal realm that I would return to throughout my research as an undergraduate student at Columbia University.

"The PLP allowed me to realize that I was not alone in a pursuit to learn more from and about my people, and that Natives of all creeds and colors must collaborate and support each other in pursuits of a better, more stable, healthier and less toxic world. Speaking to this, I urge fellow CPN members to provide vocal and material support to the protesters and peoples at Standing Rock."

What have you been doing since you finished the PLP?

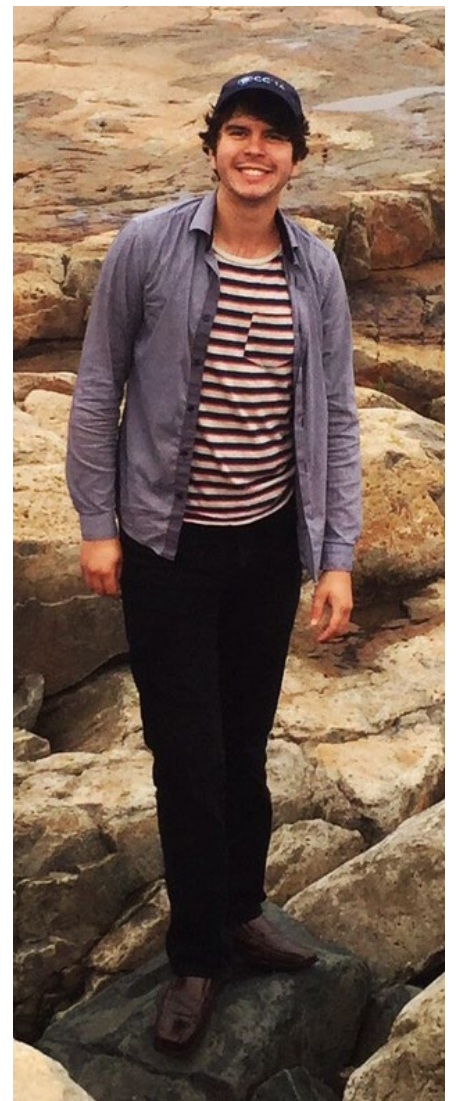
"Following my time as a PLP, I have completed my bachelor's degree from Columbia, graduating with honors for my major in ethnic studies and obtaining a concentration in political science. I have held internships with the National Congress of American Indians and with the CPN Cultural Heritage Center, in addition to being a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship recipient.

"I was co-president of Columbia's Native American Council and assisted in the process of organizing the installation of a plaque recognizing Manhattan as traditional Lenape territory on the university's campus. I was also a member of the editorial board for the Columbia Daily Spectator during my senior year of college. I have begun a PhD program in Sociocultural Anthropology at the University of Minnesota this fall."

How did your internship at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center impact you?

"While interning at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center, I simultaneously researched the tribe's legal and land-based history and worked on web development for www.potawatomiheritage.org. The knowledge I gained throughout the research process directly influenced my senior thesis, a work that focused on Citizen Potawatomi territorial, political, governmental, and representational fluctuations from 1861-present."

To learn more about the Potawatomi Leadership Program, please visit plp.potawatomi.org.



Elan Pochedley

Tribal employee presents art at Santa Fe Indian Market

The Santa Fe Indian Market is the largest Native American art market in the world and has been running for nearly 100 years. It includes a prestigious juried art show that attracts as many as 150,000 visitors from many countries. At the most recent event, a tribal employee and cultural teacher was on hand to sell some of her self-made products.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal citizen Leslie Deer is the production assistant at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center. She started making apparel art for herself in 1990 and began producing items for others six years later. She makes women's dresses, jumpsuits, skirts, tops and suits. Additionally, she creates her own designs to print on fabric to use for her garments.

"My art is influenced by my Native culture and traditions, my environment, my life experiences, and my upbringing in an urban Native community in the San Francisco Bay Area," Deer said. "As for my heritage, it's who I am so it's infused in everything I do. I have an affinity for curvilinear designs and spirals. If you look at our Mvskoke art and the art of our ancestors – the Mound builder culture – that is exactly what you will see."

Deer – who describes her garments as authentic heirlooms and storytellers – participated in the market for the first time in more than a decade. She nearly sold out of her apparel art.

"I feel like I was well-received. It was a very encouraging opportunity and experience. I hope that people will envision themselves wearing my art and take an interest in Southeastern Indian art. Beyond that, I hope to inspire a younger generation in my community to learn more about their culture, to sew, and imagine themselves as designers."

For more information or to purchase these one-of-a-kind pieces of wearable art, contact Deer at ladeerapparel@gmail.com.



KeAnne Langford modeling one of Deer's dresses.

Enjoy Life and DREAM BIG!

Life is about more... **MORE time** with friends and family, **MORE once-in-a-lifetime experiences**, **MORE margin** to relax and unwind... Our bankers can assist you in making the most of your resources, so that you can **enjoy life and achieve your dreams**.

Our Services:

- Personal & Business Checking Accounts • Savings Accounts / CDs / IRAs • Credit Lines
- Cash Flow Management • Commercial & Consumer Lending • Mortgage Lending
- Online Banking / Bill Pay / eStatements • PopMoney* • Remote Deposit Capture
- Mobile Banking / Mobile Picture Deposit*

*Terms, fees, and conditions apply. See brochure and website for details.

First National Bank & Trust Co. *Your Bank for Life*

Shawnee – Home Office – 130 E. MacArthur • (405) 275-8830
 FireLake – 1545 S. Gordon Cooper Dr. • (405) 878-4877

Follow Us @ **FNBoKla**

www.fnbokla.bank

Hownikan founder, Vice-Chairman honored at AARP Indian Elders banquet

On October 10, the AARP Oklahoma Indian Elders Honors held its eighth annual Oklahoma Indian Elders event in Oklahoma City with two Citizen Potawatomi Nation members amongst those honored. The awards banquet has become a well-known event in Oklahoma's Indian Country, with the AARP recognizing the achievements of tribal elders from the state's 39 tribal nations.

For many, the recognition of their work on behalf of their tribe or Native American issues comes later than it should have. Such is the case for one Citizen Potawatomi honored at the 2016 event, Shawnee, Oklahoma's Beverly Hughes.

Beverly Hughes is a well-known elder in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, whose work in the early 1970s played an integral part in the development of the tribe's presence today. Elected in 1970 to what was then called the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians' office of secretary-treasurer, Hughes' primary work aside from serving on the tribe's 5-person business committee was to gather contact information for tribal members' in order to inform them of per-capita payments from the federal government.

To accomplish this, Hughes secured a \$25,000 federal grant to fund the outreach effort. The result of this was the publishing of the [very first edition of the Hownikan](#), the first tribal newspaper.

"All I was trying to do was give people an update on what we were doing and what services provided," explained Hughes in a 2013 interview with the *Hownikan*. "It seemed pretty popular, so from then on we tried to produce it every quarter to keep our members informed."

Today, the tribal paper has a print circulation of more than 15,000, reaching out to CPN members across the globe.



AARP Associate State Director Mashell Sourjohn, CPN Vice-Chairman Linda Capps, AARP State President Joe Anne Vermillion and AARP Advisor of Multicultural Leadership Michael Bird



AARP Associate State Director Mashell Sourjohn, Beverly Hughes, AARP State President Joe Anne Vermillion and AARP Advisor of Multicultural Leadership Michael Bird

Hughes also played a vital role in developing the tribe's first seal and codifying the correct spelling of the tribe with officials at the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, who had erroneously spelled it "Pottawatomie" instead of the proper "Potawatomi."

"They said they were going to spell it the same as the county," recalled Hughes, "but I told them that we were separate from the county. We were an entity unto ourselves, so we made it Potawatomi."

Hughes' efforts on behalf of the tribe – many of which took place prior to the landmark 1975 Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act – were integral in putting what became known as Citizen Potawatomi Nation onto the path of economic and cultural sustainability. If not for the dedication and work of elders like her, who fostered a sense of Potawatomi pride and community in the most challenging of times, the Nation would not be what it is today.

Also honored was current CPN Vice-Chairman Linda Capps, also of Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Vice-Chairman Capps' impact is far-reaching into Indian Country due to her impact on the lives of countless students as a teacher and Indian Education Director at Tecumseh Public Schools. In addition to her educational experience, she has served as tribal vice-chairman since 1990.

During her tenure the tribe has increased its assets at an incredible pace and today is the largest employer in Pottawatomie County. She was honored also for her drive in search of new opportunities that will improve the quality of life for her people in the surrounding communities.

A testament to her dedication to the community came in March 2016 when she was honored with the [prestigious Gordon Richard's Sr. Service award](#) by the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce for her more than decade-long commitment to the community.

Born in the community of Harrah, Oklahoma, Capps began her professional career as a business teacher at Dover Public Schools. In 1977, she moved to Tecumseh Public Schools, where for seven years she taught business and served as the district's Indian education director. She also served for a decade at the Oklahoma Bid Assistance Program and as an adult education instructor at Gordon Cooper Technology Center in Shawnee, Oklahoma. She has served on the board of directors of numerous institutions, including the Federal Reserve Bank branch of Oklahoma City, Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc., Gordon Cooper Technology Center Foundation, the Foundation Board for Seminole State College and First National Bank and Trust Co., the largest tribally-owned bank in the United States.



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI GIFT SHOP

INSIDE THE CPN CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

Stay warm

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

JACKETS, SWEATERS AND MOCCASINS

GIFTSHOP.POTAWATOMI.ORG

f POTAWATOMIGIFTS



Medical staff combats disease and misconceptions this flu season

Leaves are turning colors, football season is well underway and pumpkin-spice is in almost any product imaginable. While most breathe a sigh of relief with cooler temperatures, another autumn tradition, flu shots, are being given at workplaces and schools across the country.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Health Services staff spent late September and early October immunizing staff across the tribal enterprises and programs. CPN tribal member and current Public Health Coordinator, Kassi Roselius, M.D., spoke to the *Hownikan* about being prepared for flu season, the myths and misunderstandings health providers hear this time of year, and how to know if you’ve actually got the flu.

Why get the flu shot?

“Influenza is a virus which occurs most frequently during the months of October through May. The virus is spread mainly through person-to-person contact, sneezing and coughing. Besides adequate hand-washing and covering their cough, a person can help protect themselves from the flu by receiving the vaccine. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the flu vaccine can help prevent people from getting the flu, make symptoms less severe if a person has it and prevent spreading the virus to other family members. A



Dr. Kassi Roselius

yearly flu vaccine is recommended for people ages six months and older. Children between the ages of six months to eight years old may need two separate doses during the same flu season.”

Will the vaccine give a person the flu?

“The flu vaccine does not contain any live virus in the shot. Therefore, the flu shot cannot give you the flu. Each year a new vaccine is manufactured in hopes of protecting against three to four different viral strands. Symptoms may occur with the administration of the shot, such as sore

muscles in the arm, fatigue, or low-grade fever; however, these symptoms should only last 24-48 hours.”

How can someone tell the difference between the cold or flu in terms of symptoms?

“Cold symptoms are less severe and have a gradual onset. Common cold symptoms can include cough, stuffy or runny nose, sore throat and low-grade fever. Recovery from a cold can take 7-14 days.

“Flu symptoms occur suddenly and usually include a high temperature, chills, fatigue and body aches.”

How does one know whether they’re contagious?

“Adults are contagious one day *before* symptoms to five days after exposure. Children may be contagious for more than seven days. The virus is spread through particles in the air, so covering when one coughs, washing hands and avoiding sharing cups, utensils, etc. can aide in prevention of spreading the virus.”

What are some myths you or other health care providers hear about the cold and flu season that are just flat out wrong?

“You *cannot* get the flu from the flu shot. There is no live virus in the shot. Patients may have side effects such as mentioned above, but those symptoms are not the flu and should resolve within 24-48 hours.

“The flu shot is *highly* recommended in pregnancy and is safe.

“Patients can receive the flu vaccine even if they are ‘sick’ with a cold, which are generally caused by a virus and cannot be treated with antibiotics.”

If you would like to learn more about CPN Health Services, please visit <http://www.potawatomi.org/services/health/clinics> or call 405-273-5236.

Cadets discover shared Potawatomi ancestry at Marine Military High School

In history class, two Marine Military Academy cadets discovered they not only share Native American roots, but they actually belong to the same nation.

Juniors Cameron Rush of Bakersfield, California, and Anthony Wulfkuhle of Glendale, Arizona, met for the first time in August 2016 in their U.S. History class. It was during a lesson on Native Americans that the teenagers learned about their connection to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

According to Wulfkuhle, their history teacher Randall Hill was telling the class how he was a Native American originally from Potawatomie County in Oklahoma.

“I told my teacher: That’s the county of my tribe. I’m Potawatomi,” Wulfkuhle said. “Then Rush said, ‘I am, too!’”

Though no one doubted the boys, Rush and Wulfkuhle gladly proved their Potawatomi ancestry.

“A few days later, we both brought our Potawatomi IDs to class,” Rush said. “It was pretty cool.”

Rush is the son of Jennifer Betti of Bakersfield, Calif., and Brent Rush of Edmond, Okla. His Potawatomi lineage comes from his father’s side. He is a member of the Greemore family.

Wulfkuhle is the grandson of Somporn and Joseph Wulfkuhle of Glendale, Ariz. His Potawatomi lineage also comes from his father’s side. He is a member of the Ogee family.

Both young men have proven to be exemplary cadets at MMA. Wulfkuhle, a first-year cadet, was already named the September 2016 Cadet of the Month for Echo Company. Rush, a third-year cadet, was named the September 2015 Cadet of the Month for Fox Company.

This is not the first time students at an academic institution found out about their shared lineage as Citizen Potawatomi. In May 2016, three Midshipmen from the 2016 graduating class of the U.S. Naval Academy, Jacque Kennedy, Caleb Anderson and Whitney Heer, discovered after sending in their individual graduation announcements to the tribal newspaper that the others were CPN members.



Marine Military Academy juniors Cameron Rush of Bakersfield, California, and Anthony Wulfkuhle of Glendale, Arizona.

Marine Military Academy is a college-preparatory boarding school for young men in grades 8-12 with an optional post-graduate year. Since 1965, MMA is the only private school in the world based on the traditions and values of the U.S.

Marine Corps. Located in Harlingen, Texas, MMA has been home to thousands of sons from across the world and is quarters to the historic Iwo Jima Monument. To learn more about MMA, visit MMA-TX.org.

Thanksgiving holiday echoes centuries-old fall traditions for Citizen Potawatomi

The celebration of the Puritans' first Thanksgiving with the Wampanoag Indians, as a result of its status as an official national holiday, has become a time honored tradition for most Americans. While the focus of most Thanksgiving celebrations is to enjoy food and the company of loved ones, few recognize the holiday is a contemporary incarnation of post-harvest festivals common across human history. Since the first hunter-gatherer turned their spear into a plow, humans from cultures across the world have almost universally held celebrations commemorating the conclusion of the fall harvest.

"There were certainly celebrations held around the time of the harvest because almost every culture in the world has them," noted Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., director of the Citizen Potawatomi Cultural Heritage Center. "You celebrate the successes of the year and feast to give thanks and bring people together as a way to signal that it was time to really prepare for winter."

For societies like the Potawatomi, that could mean drying food to have over the winter months. Especially in the Great Lakes region, there would be snow on the ground for months at a time. One staple of the Potawatomi diet prior to the removal era was



19th Century tribal women harvesting wild rice - S. Eastnebm 1853.

wild rice, or mnomen, whose harvest was cause for celebration as the summer ended and autumn settled in. [As described in an excellent film about the subject by the Gun Lake Potawatomi Tribe](#), a prophecy told by the Seven Grandfathers instructed the Potawatomi to migrate from the Saint Lawrence River to a place "where food grows on water." When they arrived in the Great Lakes region and found the mnomen growing in the shallows of the waters there, they knew they were in their new home.

In a late 19th century report, "[Tusayan Migration Traditions](#)," author Jesse Fewkes noted the mnomen ceremonies that were common amongst Eastern Woodland Indians. These celebrations typically took place after the fall harvest but before the winter hunt. His descriptions, though penned in the context of his time, could in some instances apply to modern day, American Thanksgiving traditions.

"The periods of the wild-rice (sic) harvest, as indeed of most opportu-

nities for social gatherings, are gala days to the Indians. Social pastimes and religious ceremonies are strangely commingled," wrote Fewkes.

According to Fewkes, the fall wild rice harvest was so important that the Ojibwa, Odawa and Potawatomi, as well as other regional tribes like the Sinouan Dakotas and Menomini, dedicated the name of a month in their respective languages to this necessary activity. The timing of what the Potawatomi called the Ricing Moon did not fall exactly in line with today's late November American Thanksgiving, but was a late-summer celebration.

Commenting on the Ojibwa Indians about the Lake of the Woods in Canada, Fewkes described a ceremony in which "before commencing to gather the rice they make a feast, and not are allowed to gather the grain till after it. They thank the Master of Life for the crop, asking him to keep off all storms while they are harvesting."

While most Potawatomi across the U.S. will likely celebrate the holiday as any of their other fellow Americans, they can know that in doing so, they are keeping with a tradition that was similarly celebrated by their ancestors long before contact with Europeans.

Tribal realty department takes fight to invasive red cedar using federal funds

In Oklahoma, the epicenter of the Dust Bowl, the possibility of a drought never seems too far off. Though currently in a mild state of drought, policy makers at the local, state and tribal level have renewed their focuses on improving water conservation efforts before the water spouts run dry.

In 2010, Citizen Potawatomi Nation adopted an integrated resources management plan aimed at preserving its natural, cultural, social and economic resources. The proliferation of the invasive eastern red cedar tree on tribal land endangers this mission. Eastern red cedar poses significant threats to tribal cultural and economic success on affected land.

"When a parcel of land is allowed to return to its natural state, that is, not cultivated, hayed or grazed for the period of a year or more, red cedars sprout and grow aggressively," explained CPN Realty Director Charles Meloy. "They do not provide food for any animals, domestic or wild; they are highly flammable; they consume large amounts of ground water; they crowd out other more useful plant species, trees or grasses because

they grow very thick and will completely cover or shade the ground."

Based on a current assessment, the CPN estimates up to 4,000 acres of trust land may currently require removal by manual means such as individuals cutting the trees down using chainsaws. Federal funding, available through the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Invasive Wildlife Grant, will be dedicated to tools and man hours fighting invasive red cedar. An invasive wildlife specialist already on staff will assess and eradicate existing red cedar infestations on tribal land, while also working to prevent its reestablishment.

Said Meloy, "The grant funds will be utilized to purchase equipment, a skid steer with attachments, to cut and stack cedars for burns by the BIA Burn Teams. They will also fund the operator and provide supplies, fuel and maintenance for one year. After the grant funds are expended and the grant closed, the equipment will remain with CPN for use for continuing red cedar clearing."

There have been rising concerns in Oklahoma about the spread of red cedar. The multiyear drought that ended in 2015 helped raise awareness of



BIA firefighters conducting a red cedar burn in the summer of 2016.

the need for water conservation. Red cedar's spread was one issue identified by tribal, county and municipal governments.

At the height of a drought in 2013, the City of Shawnee identified the species as a threat to its dwindling water supplies near the Shawnee Twin Lakes area. [Then-commissioner Linda Agee](#), whose ward included the lakes, pushed for an eradication program. The city has conducted its own eradication plan since then, but many of the trees that remain in its limits are on private property, leav-

ing municipal workers no options in removing them.

CPN hopes that the example set by its program will address that problem in the areas in its tribal jurisdiction. Eradication of invasive cedar on CPN lands will both benefit the Nation by protecting and preserving both the cultural and enterprise values. It is hoped that as a result, the tribe will build relationships with regional landowners, who may use the CPN model for their own properties.

CPN receives funding to provide youth mental health services

Suicide rates among Native American youth and young adults are 1.5 times higher than the national average according to the latest statistics from [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). Within this age group, Native Americans experienced the highest rate of suicide, at a staggering 21.2 percent. There was also a 50 percent increase in mental health and substance abuse treatment among Native youth in the last five years.

With these burdening statistics in mind, Citizen Potawatomi Nation secured funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to combat this problem. SAMHSA's Native Connections grant program aims to reduce suicidal behavior and substance use and promote mental health among Native youth.

"So much of the time in behavioral health we are treating individuals who may have had success with reducing or preventing mental health and substance use disorder altogether if prevention services were available," CPN Behavioral Health Coordinator Dr. Glenna Stumblingbear-Riddle, said. "We know that prevention works and early screening and prevention services are crucial. Now that we have the Native Connections grant we can build a stronger Native youth prevention program by offering more services and programs that will make a positive impact on the lives of these youth and their families."

Native Connections is a five-year cooperative agreement that helps American Indian and Alaska Native communities identify and address



Native teens experience the highest rate of suicide of any population group in the United States.

the behavioral health needs of tribal youth. The program supports grantees in reducing suicidal behavior and substance use among Native youth up to age 24, easing the impacts of substance use, mental illness and trauma in tribal communities and supporting youth as they transition into adulthood. This project will serve tribal youth in CPN's five-county health service area in central Oklahoma.

"Suicide is a preventable death when individuals can access the help they need and individuals can detect when someone is in need of services," Dr. Stumblingbear-Riddle said. "This grant will allow us more capacity to reduce suicidal behavior and help youth and their families obtain the resources they need. The youth are our future and this grant will help reach many in need of varying levels of services."

CPN was granted nearly \$750,000 to be distributed over a period of five years. The first year will include a

community assessment of mental health needs and the formation of a community connections advisory board. There will be higher patient service goals established for the remaining four years of the program as well. The proposal submitted to SAMHSA aims to serve at least 5,000 tribal youth through the duration of the project.

The funding fills an important gap at CPN. Although the tribal youth program is in place for 11-17 year-olds, there is little support for those 18-24 years old.

"We are excited to offer more culturally-informed, trauma-informed, strengths-based and evidence-based programming to achieve the goal of promoting mental health, reducing substance use and suicide and easing the negative impact of trauma," Dr. Stumblingbear-Riddle said. "We will also offer programs that support a successful transition into adulthood

as it is often the case there is a gap there. We are thankful and excited for all the opportunities that the SAMHSA Native Connections Grant will help us achieve in our community."

In addition to the SAMHSA Native Connections grant, CPN Behavioral Health Services also secured more than \$170,000 in federal funding for the 2016 Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative Competing Supplement Project. The overall goal of the project is to add behavioral health staff who will operate a tribal youth behavioral health counseling program in conjunction with the CPN Tribal Youth Program.

This project will employ a psychologist and master's level counselor to provide individual, family and group counseling sessions, individualized and active case management and targeted behavioral health training sessions for CPN Tribal Youth Program employees.

"Often youth in need of services aren't able to obtain them because parents may not be able to bring them to a behavioral health appointment during work hours when our offices are open," Dr. Stumblingbear-Riddle said. "This is a great opportunity for professionals at this level to assist our youth with screenings and treatment when needed. We are going to make a big impact."

For more information about these new programs, please contact the CPN Behavioral Health Services at (405) 214-5101.

CPN legislative update: November 2016

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Legislature met on September 2016 with all legislators in attendance.

Resolutions concerning the body's previous meeting minutes and rescheduling the quarterly meeting from August 25 to September 22 were both approved.

In preparation of the 2017 tribal election season, the legislature confirmed the appointment of the CPN Election Committee and designation of Gary Bourbonnais as committee chairman.

The legislators also appointed Citizen Potawatomi Nation delegates to the National Congress of American Indians annual session, including membership dues for the organization. Tribal Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett was named as delegate, while District 3 Legislator Robert Whistler and District 5 Legislator Gene Lambert were named as alternates. CPN's mem-

bership dues to the National Indian Gaming Association were likewise approved.

The legislature also passed resolutions supporting the tribe's application to Indian Health Service's Meth and Suicide Prevention Initiative and the Tribal Transportation Program Transportation Improvement Plan for the U.S. Highway Administration. Resolutions authorizing tribal grant proposals were approved for the U.S. Department of Energy's 'First Steps Toward Developing Renewable Energy on Tribal Lands' Program and the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development's Tribal Energy Development Capacity' Program as well.

In the final business of the evening, the annual tribal budget for the 2017 fiscal year was approved with all 16 legislators voting in favor.



The 2016-17 CPN Legislature.

CPN Education update: November 2016

By Tesia Zientek, Director of the CPN Department of Education

This fall, the CPN Department of Education administered the first CPN Tribal Scholarship, a consolidated version of what was previously the tribal rolls, housing and higher education scholarships. In addition, we managed the transition from a paper application to an online one in an effort to streamline the process.

Over the past several months, we have had the pleasure of speaking with many of you via email, phone and in person about your scholarships. While change is never easy, you embraced the new processes and made them successful. Now that the September 15 deadline has passed, I am excited to report that CPN awarded 1,476 scholarships for the fall 2016 semester. We appreciate all of your patience and feedback as we survived this monumental change together.


On November 15, the spring scholarship opens. Students will have until February 15 to complete the online application at portal.potawatomi.org. As we collectively take a deep breath and dive into this new scholarship round, our team has come up with some important tips and reminders to consider as you complete your spring scholarship application:

Save a tree: Now that the online portal is up and running, we will no longer accept paper applications *under any circumstances*. Using the online system helps us to save paper and increase our efficiency.

Mark your calendar: If you submit an application after the deadline, you will not receive funding. Keeping a strict timeline helps our department plan its workflow to serve students better.

SCHOLARSHIP REMINDER!

THE SPRING SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 15



**CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Verify documents: Make sure that you do not submit your online application until you have uploaded the three required documents: tax information, most recent unofficial transcript and a class schedule. Your name should be visible on each document so that we know it's yours.

Make it clear: We cannot process scholarship applications if we cannot read the files uploaded. If you do not have access to a scanner, we encourage you to download a free scanner app or take a picture. As long as we can read the document, we will happily accept it in any form.

Phone it in: If you do not have access to a computer, remember that you can access portal.potawatomi.org to submit your application from your smart phone.

Stay current: Make sure your information is correct at tribal rolls before submitting your scholarship application. If there is an error on your tribal rolls file (incorrect name, birth date, etc.), we will be unable to verify your enrollment and fund your scholar-

ship until it has been corrected. You can call 405-878-5835 to make any changes with the tribal rolls department.

Check your email: Each student profile must be connected to a distinct email address. For parents who are helping to complete their children's application, this means that you must use a different email address for each child. Make sure that you use an email that will be checked often because our department uses email as a primary means of communication.

Take credit: Make sure that your class schedule lists the total number of credit hours. If a document lists only the course names, we don't know how many credits a student taking and cannot determine whether they are part time or full time. For undergraduate students, part time is considered 11 credits and under, while full time is 12 credits or more. For graduate students, eight credits and under is considered part-time, and full time is nine credits or more.

If your institution uses a different scale to consider full time status, you must submit an official letter from the university stating this policy.

Pick your pathway: The CPN Department of Education serves students pursuing an associate, bachelor or graduate degree with the online application. For students pursuing vocational or technical training, the CPN Employment and Training department uses a separate process. Call 405-598-0797 for more information about that program.

Don't be afraid to ask: Never hesitate to reach out to any of us with questions. It's a lot easier to troubleshoot something before you submit your application than after the deadline has passed. Email college@potawatomi.org or call 405-275-3121 to contact us.

It's inspiring to watch each student achieve their educational goals one semester at a time. We look forward to another successful round of scholarships this spring!

CPN's Upton sells wood turned crafts at gift shop

The Citizen Potawatomi Gift Shop sells a variety of crafts and art from Native American artists. One of those craftsmen is Bergeron family descendant Sam Upton, who is a talented wood turner.

"I started woodturning when I retired about 10 years ago," Upton said. "I started doing ink pens, then bows, platters and hollow



Sam Upton

forms, which are much more of a challenge. I like to create a bowl or hollow form that mimic the shape of Native pottery."

His pieces are made from a variety of wood, poisonous toad skin, python skin, bullets, white tailed deer antler, water buffalo horn, natural stone, alligator jaw bone, corn cobs and burl wood.

The most challenging project he has done was with Manzanita root burl, a shrub from the Mojave Desert, which took three months to complete because it was as hard as concrete.

"I have an idea of what I want to do when I get started, but the wood tells me what it wants to do," he explained. "The wood dictates the kind of shape it is going to be."

Upton entered an art contest for wood turners in Houston five years ago and



Items crafted by Sam Upton can be purchased online at giftshop.potawatomi.org

won both the first and second place awards. Upton moved to Shawnee two years ago to be closer to family and to utilize CPN's health services.

"Everything about CPN is wonderful," Upton said.

Several of this Citizen Potawatomi's refillable razors and pens are available at the CPN Gift Shop. To shop, please visit the gift shop in the CPN Cultural Heritage Center or giftshop.potawatomi.org.

Zientek recognized as one of NextGen Under 30

The NextGen Under 30 awards are presented by Oklahoma City-based ION Oklahoma, a printing and digital news publication. Awardees from 15 categories, all under the age of 30 at the time of their nomination, are recognized for their contributions as leaders in innovation and creativity in their specific sector.

Current Director of the [Citizen Potawatomi Nation Department of Education](#) [Tesia Zientek](#) was amongst this year’s awardees for her service to education in Indian Country and Oklahoma.

“I am honored by the award,” said Zientek. “The tribe’s focus on education instilled in me the drive to help provide better educational opportunities for all Native Americans. It’s an honor to be recognized for the work of our department of education staff and tribal leadership who help further this mission.”

In October 2015, Zientek was named director of the newly created Citizen Potawatomi Nation Department of Education. In this capacity, she was tasked with building a department that provides an entry point for

college-bound Citizen Potawatomi students in search of individualized college advice, scholarship help or internship information, regardless of age or location. With more than 30,000 tribal members around the world, this was a monumental undertaking, which initially began with Zientek as the only staff member.

In addition to her primary duties in getting the CPN Department of Education off the ground, Zientek worked with three other tribal departments previously responsible for the disbursement of higher education scholarships. In the last fiscal year alone, that involved the streamlined transfer of 2,966 CPN Tribal Rolls Department scholarships and 846 CPN Tribal Housing Department student housing scholarships. Under Zientek’s supervision, the newly created CPN Department of Education oversee all the tribal scholarships, which in FY2015 totaled more than \$5 million in awarded funds. Her department has recently partnered with the tribal information and technology department to develop an online education portal, where all college bound Potawatomi can research and



Tesia Zientek

apply for higher education opportunities.

Since assuming her duties, she has hired three full time staff members who serve as college advisors and internship program coordinators. She has also played a vital role as a consultant for Citizen Potawatomi

Nation partnerships with both St. Gregory’s University and Oklahoma Baptist University. Zientek is especially active in the former’s “Vision for Our Next Century” strategic plan, where stakeholders from SGU, the local community and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation addressed important academic, cultural, and infrastructural focus areas of the university.

Zientek is a Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member and alumna of Bethel Public Schools. With financial help from a prestigious Gates Millennium Scholarship, she graduated magna cum laude from the University of Notre Dame in 2009 with her Bachelor of Arts in English. After graduation, Tesia spent two years teaching and running an after school program in Puerto Rico before deciding to pursue her passion for education through graduate study. In 2013, she graduated with her Master of Arts in Education Policy from Stanford University. To celebrate her educational and employment-related achievements, Tesia was recognized in 2013 for the Howard Yackus Memorial Award.

The Treaty of 1861 is CPN origin story

In November 1861, a treaty signed by the U.S. government and Potawatomi tribal members officially established the Native Americans as a politically distinct tribe. This year marks the 155th anniversary of that designation.

“This is our origin story,” CPN Cultural Heritage Center Director Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., said. “The census that followed that treaty is where we get our tribal rolls now.”

The federal government approached the Potawatomi with the treaty while they were living on a reservation in northeast Kansas. The essence of the document stated that instead of living communally in Kansas, they would be private land owners and United States’ citizens. They weren’t forced into signing the treaty or leaving the reservation, but a difficult decision faced the Potawatomi people at the time.

Two-thirds of those on the reservation opted to sign the treaty. Those people became the Citizen Band, and were able to negotiate how much land each tribal member received. Meanwhile, those who opted not to become American citizens became known as the Prairie Band and continued to hold their land communally.

“Our ancestors didn’t make this decision in a vacuum. They had undergone a lot of removals and trauma,” Mosteller said. “They were being told by their Indian agent that the government couldn’t promise that they would be able to stay on that reservation if they weren’t willing to sign and become



A map of the Pottawattamie Reservation in Kansas.

land owners. They had seen several removals and made the difficult decision to do something legally and politically different than anything they’d tried before. By signing the treaty and choosing this option, they were attempting security for their families and taking control of their future during the uncertainty around them.”

This uncertainty involved other non-Native settlers moving to land all around them, the Civil War breaking out a few months earlier and the government’s unwillingness to promise they wouldn’t be removed again by force.

According to his descendant Jon Boursaw, Joseph Boursassa served on the five-member business committee which negotiated the treaty and was listed on the treaty as the official U.S. interpreter. He also negotiated with the Prairie Band Potawatomi to be part of the allotment process,

but was unsuccessful, as they chose not to sign the treaty.

“One always takes pride in knowing his ancestry was instrumental in the history of the tribe,” said Boursaw, who followed in Boursassa’s footsteps by serving as CPN’s current District 4 legislator. “Along with the 1861 Treaty, Joseph was influential as a member of the business committee in negotiating our last treaty in 1867, allowing us to return our allotments and obtain land in Indian Territory, now Oklahoma.”

According to Mosteller, many promises were made about what it meant to be a citizen and a land owner. CPN members were told they would have rights and more control of their futures if they negotiated the treaty. Many of the Potawatomi signed the Treaty of 1861 simply because they didn’t want to be forcibly removed again.

After the treaty was signed, the U.S. government failed to follow through with many of the promises which were in the document, that they would first have a census, survey the land and allow tribal members to choose which plot they wanted. Tribal members were supposed to receive money to buy seed and farming equipment to have two full seasons of crop production as a means of income. After those two years, the government would determine who was worthy and eligible to be U.S. citizens, and those ready for citizenship would be taxed.

According to Mosteller, that’s not how it played out. They were taxed almost immediately, but had no source of income and therefore couldn’t pay. The federal government took the land of those people who failed to pay their taxes.

“The intent of the U.S. government was that the allotment process would bring an end to the Indian reservations and make it easier to integrate the Native Americans into the ways of the white man,” Boursaw said.

According to Boursaw, six years later, CPN negotiated the Treaty of 1867, which allowed tribal members to return their allotments to the federal government, which were then sold to the Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company.

The proceeds were used to purchase CPN’s land in Indian Territory and the migration of tribal members to present-day Oklahoma began in the 1870s.

Citizen Potawatomi views from Standing Rock

Editor's note: Several CPN tribal members and employees traveled to the site of the Dakota Access Pipeline protests. Below are summaries of what is happening in North Dakota from their points of view. Their contributions have been lightly edited for clarity and length.

Michael Mnogabwutmk Bourbonnais

Dakota Access Pipeline originally planned to run two oil pipes under the Missouri River at Bismarck, the capital of North Dakota. The townspeople there protested, fearing that the pipelines would leak and contaminate their drinking water.

DAPL then moved about 40 miles south to treaty land, which had been seized by the U.S. government from the Lakota Nation in 1958. DAPL wants to cross under the Missouri River on seized land with two pipelines just one-half mile upstream of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe reservation. DAPL has destroyed Lakota burial sites, effigies, and artifacts in the land. DAPL has assaulted protectors with chemicals and attack dogs. DAPL threatens to contaminate the tribe's only source of drinking water. The river also supplies drinking water for millions of people downstream.

There are four resistance camps at what is called "Standing Rock:" Sacred Stone Spirit Camp, Rosebud Lakota Camp, the main camp, and another small camp further north on North Dakota Highway 1806.

Sacred Stone Spirit Camp is the original camp for the DAPL resistance movement. It is located on the Standing Rock Lakota reservation, near Cannon Ball, next to the Missouri River.

One mile north on 1806, the Rosebud Lakota camp is located south side of the Cannon Ball River, on the north edge of the reservation.

Across the Cannon Ball River is the main camp, located on treaty land taken by the U.S.A. It is a community of up to 4,000 mostly native people. The community is made-up of various camps of the diverse tribes and international folks living and visiting there.

The community is directed by elders. It is self-policing, has seven kitchens, a school and medics. It is the place of ceremony, prayer, song, talks and various trainings. Children play freely among grazing horses. Families gather at the river to pray, sing, swim and laugh.

We have gathered at this sacred place for reasons led by Creator, solidarity, water protection and love for our people. I went there, and most go there, because we want to experience what it is like to be Indian, again, in an America that is desperate to make us forget what it is to be Indian.

Elan Pochedly

My partner, Caroline Doenmez, and I traveled to North Dakota during a



One of the protest camps opposing the Dakota Access Pipeline. Photo by Elan Pochedly

weekend break in September from our Ph.D. program in anthropology at the University of Minnesota. We came to donate blankets, medical supplies, children's books and an assortment of winter clothing. We are both scholars in critical Indigenous studies, and are both committed to seeking a future that the Native people of this land deserve. Water pollution and oil spills do not fit such a vision.

During our time at the Sacred Stone and Red Warrior camps, we were overwhelmed by the physical, symbolic and demonstrative support of the protesters. On our drive from Saint Paul to the camps near the Standing Rock Reservation, we were forced to take a detour, adding a bit of mileage to our trip. The detour, intended to dissuade activists from the site, had the opposite effect; Caroline and I were overwhelmed by the beauty of the landscape. Upon arrival at the Sacred Stone Camp, we saw license plates spanning states across the U.S. to the territory of Canada; however, these geopolitical labels can never indicate the heritage and lineage of the protesters and their ideological commitment to these lands and waters held sacred by Natives and non-Natives alike. We met Ladonna Brave Bull Allard, who greeted us at the Sacred Stone Camp located on her land. When arriving at the Red Warrior Camp, we saw the numerous flags of Native and First Nations supporting protesters and the tribe. Proceeding dusk we entered a world of drumming, singing, and smudging. A pan-Native community was present during our stay at the campgrounds, as I can say with confidence, is the daily norm at the two sites.

Before traveling west, we watched the interviews of activists such as Winona LaDuke, detailing the history of pipeline spills and their relationship to the current risks posed to tribal sovereignty and livelihood. I encourage all *Hownikan* readers to read her article titled "What would Sitting Bull Do?" and CPN's Kyle Powys Whyte's "Why the Native American pipeline resistance in North Dakota is about climate justice."

Pipelines break, spilling the blood of our mother that is irreplaceable. The

contemporary disavowal of Native well-being and sovereignty represented by the Dakota Access Pipeline has a historical and economic relativity that should not be ignored. Look at early 1900s' juridical testimonies opposing water access for those living on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation (*Winters v. United States*); look at the 2015 spill at the Gold King Mine affecting the Navajo Nation. Access to water and defense of clean waterways have remained a common struggle for the Indigenous peoples of this country. The protesters at Standing Rock are defending, on their own terms, the future longevity of their communities and all those reliant on the Missouri River.

To attempt to control water is one thing, to knowingly poison it in the future is another. The reunification of the seven bodies comprising the Ochéthi Šakówin indicates that a broader coalition of tribal nations is necessary *and is currently being realized*. The support of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians (now known as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation) illustrates that for today, for tomorrow, and for the future, the original people of these lands will not tacitly partake in, nor endorse the desecration of the land and resources of Turtle Island. If possible, please volunteer your time and donate your material support (<http://sacredstonecamp.org/supply-list/>) to create a future where corporations no longer control the potentialities and well-being of our youth, their relations, and their mentors. Water is sacred. *Migwéché*.

Sacha Almanza

For the first time since the Battle of Little Big Horn the Lakota, Nakota and Dakota have joined together in support of their Sioux people. There are over 500 nations worldwide supporting the Standing Rock Sioux, this includes over 300 tribal nations. This support has come by way of donations, as well as on the ground physical support at Standing Rock.

The peace at the camp is extremely humbling and amazing. There are demonstrations of cultural sharing and songs throughout the day and night. Water protectors of all races from all over the world gather in prayer and participate in various ceremonies praying for the protection of

sacred water and lands of the Sioux people and the 10 million other people downstream whose water is at risk.

This movement is like any other tribe's fight for survival. Our stories are all the same, we have all throughout history had to fight to protect our sacred lands for the future of our children and grandchildren. One activist there, her name is Waniya Locke, she is Lakota (Hunkpapha), Bdewakhan, and Athna Dene. She said they "Stand in prayers for justice, water, and land that is being taken over by corporations, enforced by government powers."

One thing I would like to add is things are done constantly supported by prayer and the protectors are peaceful.

There are several ways one can help. There are legal and supply funds found on Facebook to help the front-line protectors. There are various legal funds through gofundme.com, fundrazr.com, generosity.com and online you can search key words such as "Standing Rock," "Water Protectors," "Oceti Sakowin Camp," "Sacred Ground Camp," "Red Warrior Camp," "Winterizing Standing Rock," and "Legal Defense Fund for Sacred Stone Camp."

They are in dire need of winter supplies, lumber to build shields against wind, wood for firewood, more donations for food, and water. Monetary donations are asked to be sent on Walmart gift cards for supplies and fuel.

Donations can be sent to:

Sacred Ground Camp
300 Collins Ave.
Mandan, ND 58554 Box 374

Sacred Stone Camp
PO Box 1011
Fort Yates, ND. 58538

Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
(or donate straight to their website)
ATTN: Donations
PO Box D, Building #1
North Standing Rock Ave.
Fort Yates, ND. 58538

The sharing of information through social media is important. Knowledge is power. You can begin educating yourselves on how important this movement is for Native people in regards to sacred lands, and people in general because water is Life, not one person can live without water. It is important to know that even though three government agencies put a halt to the pipeline within a 20 mile radius of Lake Oahe a reservoir of the Missouri River, the work never stopped. This was a "voluntary" halt and Energy Transfer Partners aka Dakota Access never stopped the work.

While I was there it was cold, temperatures dropped below 30 degrees and it sleeted. That wasn't even the worst of their winter weather so assistance with winterizing the camps are greatly needed and wood is running low.

Cultural program update: November 2016

By Lakota Pochedley, CPN Cultural Education Specialist

As our youth have finished and perfected their beading, sewing, and cooking skills this past month, we are preparing for a new set of workshops and activities in November. We have some changes coming up to ensure all Potawatomi youth and families’ needs and wants for programming are being met. We will be introducing a new general application process. Instead of filling out an application for every workshop, first time participants will fill out a general application here: cpn.news/culturalapp. After the general application is complete and accepted, youth will simply have to sign up to participate in the workshops online, by calling or texting.

Our recurring programming will continue with the addition of several new programs. We will now offer a girls’ talking circle and boys’ drum circle in both Shawnee and south Pottawatomie County. In Shawnee, we will meet for the girls’ talking circle and boys’ drum circle on November 2 from 6-7:30 p.m. For south Pottawatomie County, we will meet after school from 3:30-5:00 p.m. at Konawa Schools for the girls’ talking circle and boys’ drum circle on November 11.

Due to interest, we have expanded our sewing and beading workshops

as reoccurring monthly programs. Our traditional arts and skills groups will meet once a month in Shawnee and south Pottawatomie County beginning the second Monday of the month. For the month of November, the Shawnee traditional arts and skills group will meet on November 14-15 to continue working on ribbon skirts at the CPN Cultural Heritage Center from 4:15-6:30 p.m. The south Pottawatomie County traditional arts and skills group will meet on November 16-17 at Konawa Schools from 3:30-6:00 p.m. to work on their beaded turtle medallions. If youth are interested in participating in these groups, please contact me at lakota.pochedley@potawatomi.org for further information. During the winter months, we will also begin to work on a quilt and birch bark items.

We will begin hosting a monthly adult-child class on the first Monday of the month at the cultural heritage center from 6:00-7:30 p.m. These classes are for those too young to participate in our other programming, typically eight years old and younger. We welcome any parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, siblings or cousins who would like to bring their young relatives to these classes. For our first class on November 7, we will be making children’s pucker toe moccasins. You must sign up for the class by November 3 here,

cpn.news/youthculture, and the limit is eight pairs. If you are unable to sign up online, please call the cultural heritage center at 405-878-5830 to sign up.

On Family Community Day for the month of November, Rekindling 7 Generations and the Etem Omvklusen UNITY Council will co-host the Notah Begay III Foundation’s NB3 Fit Day Event on November 13 from 1-4 p.m., location TBA. The goal of the NB3 Fit Day is to engage 10,000 Native American youth in physical activity for a minimum of one hour on one day throughout the country. There are over 80 tribal nations or Native youth programs participating, including three other Potawatomi tribes. The theme of our NB3 Fit Day event is “traditional is healthy.”

We will be hosting a traditional sports event with several stations set up where Native youth and their families can play lacrosse, chunky, southeastern stickball and double ball. Sign up and event details are here cpn.news/nb3fit2016.

To continue the theme of “traditional is healthy” during November (Native American Heritage Month), we will be rescheduling our snow snake workshop for November 28-30, the deadline to sign up is November 9. Online sign up is here cpn.news/ssnake2016.



Lakota Pochedley

We encourage everyone to like our Facebook Page, www.facebook.com/R7Gen/ to stay up to date about all our workshops, classes, and community events. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Lakota.Pochedley@potawatomi.org or 405-878-5830. All our programs are Potawatomi and Native preference.

Migwetch!

One year on, CPN students make up 10 percent of St. Gregory’s student population

Oklahoma’s only Catholic university, St. Gregory’s University, [recently announced its enrollment numbers have increased with a 31 percent growth](#) in new students for the fall 2016 semester compared to the previous year. Part of the enrollment growth can likely be attributed to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation-St. Gregory’s University scholarship program, which has allowed increasing numbers of CPN tribal members to attend the four year institution.

Of the of the university’s approximately 700 students, 71 are Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members.

“I love the fact that through this partnership, 10 percent of SGU students are tribal members,” said Tesia Zientek, director of the CPN Department of Education. “This clearly demonstrates how important this scholarship program is to our tribal members in search of affordable higher education opportunities.”

Indeed the enrollment numbers are striking. According to the univer-



Angelique Williams is one of 71 CPN students enrolled at St Gregory’s University this semester.

sity’s enrollment figures, in the fall 2014 semester, before the scholarship program was in effect, only six CPN students attended the college, less than one percent of its total enrollment.

Just after the agreement took effect in fall 2015, 15 CPN students were enrolled at SGU. The increase in current CPN students, 71 for the fall

semester, now accounts for a significant portion of the student population. The numbers are increasingly important for tribal members who also wish to learn more about their tribe through the university’s CPN-focused courses, which teach the history of the CPN and structure of today’s tribal government and enterprises.

The [August 2015 agreement](#) established a \$5 million prepaid tuition program between St Gregory’s Abbey, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and the university. The Nation, under the leadership of Tribal Chairman John “Rocky” Barrett, provides scholarships to tribal members over a six year period, with 60 students receiving up to four years of full scholarships to attend St. Gregory’s.

Both traditionally-aged students in an undergraduate program or adults pursuing an associate, bachelor’s or master’s in an accelerated degree program are eligible to receive scholarships to cover their tuition and attendance costs. The program is open to all members of the CPN, regardless of location.

If you would like to learn more about the CPN-SGU scholarship agreement, reach out to the CPN Department of Education at 405-575-3121 or email college@potawatomi.org.

Get the *Hownikan* via email!

If you would like your newspaper via email, please email your name and address to hownikan@potawatomi.org and let us know.

William Polke's journey on the Trail of Death

In 1838, the Potawatomi Indians in the state of Indiana were forcibly removed from their ancestral homelands by order of the U.S. government. The 859 Potawatomi who started the journey travelled across Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and finally Kansas before finally arriving at their intended destination. The loss of life, 41 in total, resulted in the removal becoming known as the Potawatomi Trail of Death. Below are excerpts from a journal of one of the trail's participants, William Polke.

Saturday, 3 Nov. 1838

"At an early hour we left our encampment at Oak Grove, and travelled until two o'clock when we reached a settlement of Wea Indians on Bull creek, and camped adjoining Bulltown.

"Our journey was pleasant, and was marked by the anxiety of the Indians to push forward and see their friends. During the evening an attempt was made to enroll the Indians, but not very successfully. They did not seem (or would not) to understand or appreciate the object.

"Late in the evening several of the chiefs came to headquarters and requested to remain in camp tomorrow. But the journey being so nearly completed, and the scarcity of forage and provisions induced the conductor to deny their request, and insist upon travelling."



Joseph N. Bourassa, 1837

Monday, 5 Nov. 1838

"The day was consumed in making settlements with the officers. During the afternoon a considerable number of the Indians assembled at headquarters and expressed a desire to be heard in a speech.

"Pe-pish-kay rose and in substance said – 'That they had now arrived at their journey's end—that the government must now be satisfied. They had been taken from homes affording them plenty, and brought to a desert—a wilderness—and were now to be scattered and left as the husbandman scatters his seed. The Agent, Mr. Davis, they knew not, and his absence would not afford them an opportunity of deciding what they might expect from him. The Indians did not think such treatment of a character with that promised them in their treaties. They hoped Judge Polke, their friend, would remain with them and see that justice should be rendered'.

"Judge Polke informed them that considering their request too important to be disregarded, he would return from Independence, whither it was necessary he should go to attest the settlements of the emigration, and remain with them until Mr. Davis's return. He would leave his son (Mr. B. C. Polke) who would in company with them visit and select such localities in the country as might please them. They returned for answer that they would reply in the morning. The Council then broke up.

"Quite an old man died after coming into camp last night. Beef and corn were delivered to the Indians in the afternoon. During the evening, a wagon belonging to and owned by Andrew Fuller, a Pottawattomie, containing six Indians, came into camp. They had travelled from Michigan with the intention of becoming citizens of the Western Territory, and borne their expenses for the whole route. They came without any instructions from the Agent at Logansport."



Quehme, 1837

Wednesday, 7 Nov. 1838

"Travelled from Bulltown encampment to McLean's Grove, a distance of twenty five miles. It had snowed the night previous and continued most of the day, which was very windy and excessively cold. But a small number of the teams kept in company—most of them selecting their own routes."



Potawatomi painting - George Winter

Saturday, 10 Nov. 1838

"The settlements with the teamsters and officers were concluded today. Tomorrow we set out for home every thing having resulted as well and as happily as could have been anticipated by the most sanguine.

"I believe the foregoing journal to be correct in every thing pertaining to distances, localities, etc., etc."

J.C. Douglass,
Enroll. Agent

Scale of Distances

Logansport to Quincy: **339 miles**

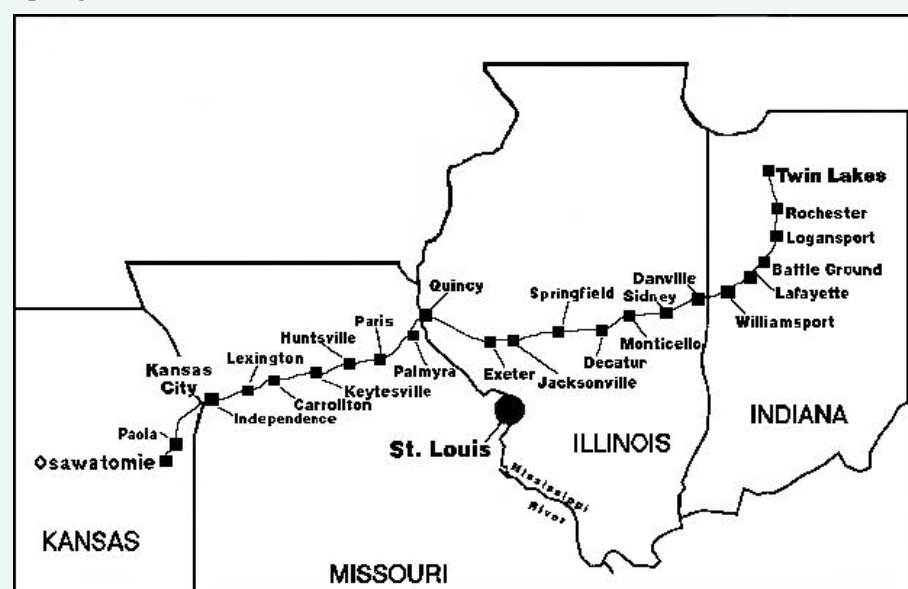
Quincy to Independence: **213 miles**

Independence to Pottawattomie Creek, W. T.: **66 miles**

Naples, Ill., to Quincy: **49 miles**

Springfield, Ill., to Naples: **59 miles**

Springfield to Danville, Ill.: **126 miles**




Map courtesy of www.potawatomi-tda.org

Meet the CPN Supreme Court

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Court system is designed to provide enforcement of tribal laws, equal justice to all and protection of tribal sovereignty. The court initially functioned as the Court of Indian Offences for western Oklahoma beginning in 1978 and became the CPN Tribal Court in 1985. Its caseload has expanded consistently each year to meet the needs of tribal members, tribal employees, other Native Americans and non-Indian litigants.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Court is comprised of a three district court judges, seven supreme court justices and two prosecutors. All judges and justices are law trained and are recognized as accomplished, well qualified and experienced individuals.

In the summer of 2016, the CPN Supreme Court marked a new milestone. For the first time ever, all sitting justices were members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. The Hownikan spoke to each justice about their background and motivation in joining the tribe’s highest judicial office. Their responses have been lightly edited for clarity.



Chief Justice Angela Riley

Potawatomi family: Pettifer

Education: University of Oklahoma, B.A. Harvard Law School, J.D.

Where are you originally from?

“I grew up on a farm near Saddle Mountain, Oklahoma and went to school in Mountain View.”

What is your current position and what kind of law practice do you specialize in?


“I am a professor of law at UCLA School of Law and director of the Native Nations Law and Policy Center (also at UCLA). I specialize in American Indian Law and international indigenous peoples’ rights.”

Why did you go into the legal profession?

“I went in specifically to do Indian Law and human rights.”

What motivated you to accept a nomination as a justice on the CPN Supreme Court?

“I have enormous respect for Chairman Barrett, Vice-Chairman Capps and all others who have dedicated so many years to government service for CPN. I see serving on the court as the highest possible honor, but also as a small way in which I can give back to our Nation. It is a privilege and a pleasure.”



Associate Justice Robert Coffey

Potawatomi family: Melot

Education: Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration, University of Oklahoma, 1989. Juris Doctor from the University of Tulsa, 1992.

Where are you originally from?

“I was born in Norman, Oklahoma but grew up in OKC.”

What is your current position and what kind of law practice do you specialize in?


“I am a founding partner of Coffey, Senger & McDaniel, PLLC. Our firm primarily represents companies that have been sued in state or federal court. We represent product manufacturers, trucking companies and any type of business interest. Our firm also offers services in wills, estates and trusts; real estate; employment law.”

Why did you go into the legal profession?

“The legal profession provides many opportunities to help people who cannot help themselves. It does not matter who calls the office, they have a problem that they cannot correct alone. Whether the person is calling on their own behalf or on the part of a larger organization, the individual requires our assistance in solving whatever problem they are encountering. It gives me great pride to be a part of solving issues and seeking solutions.”

What motivated you to accept a nomination as a justice on the CPN Supreme Court?

“The motivation to accept the nomination to the CPN Supreme Court was grounded in giving back to my community. My family is from Shawnee, Oklahoma and I felt a strong desire to be a part of the court to help decide cases based on the law but also with an understanding of the history of the tribe. The future of the tribe is dependent upon the core structure of the government. The rule of law is an extremely important part of the structure and I believe that it is critical to have tribal members serving in this capacity.”



Associate Justice Robert Coulter

Potawatomi family: Fregon

Education: Bachelor’s Degree, Williams College, 1966. JD, Columbia University Law School, 1969

Where are you originally from?

“I grew up in Oklahoma, mostly outside of Norman. My father held on to the farm where he grew up near Wauwata, in the southern part of Pottawatomie County. We spent a lot of time there, and we still own the place – a Potawatomi allotment. I was born in Rapid City, South Dakota, not far from my mother’s home. It was during World War II and Dad was due to ship overseas, so mom returned home for a short time.”

What is your current position and what kind of law practice do you specialize in?

“For almost 40 years, I have been the executive director of the Indian Law Resource Center, a not-for-profit Indian legal organization that I founded. The Indian Law Resource Center represents Indian tribes and nations throughout the Americas, without charge, in cases involving major issues of Indian sovereignty, human rights, treaty rights, land rights and related issues. We are involved in a broad range of issues and have handled many kinds of cases for tribes. We are known for our work in proposing and winning adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We continue to work in the UN and in the Organization of American States to advocate for the rights of Indian and Alaska Native nations, tribes and peoples.”

Why did you go into the legal profession?

“I went into the legal profession because I believed it would be an effective way to help people in need, a way to help correct injustices against Indians and all kinds of people, and a way to bring about needed changes in the law affecting Indian tribes and others as well. I was right that legal training provided many skills that have proven helpful, and I have been fortunate to be able to work in the public interest and to contribute to the well-being and development of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.”

Why did you become a justice on the CPN Supreme Court?

“I have been very pleased and honored to be nominated and to serve on the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Supreme Court. This has been one way for me to serve my Nation. I am very proud of what our Nation has achieved economically, socially, culturally, and politically. I could not wish for more than to play a small part in our government.”



Associate Justice Roy Tucker

Potawatomi family: Tucker

Education: Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Central Oklahoma, majoring in English with a minor in Political Science, 1998. University of Tulsa School of Law, 2003.

Where are you from? “Lexington, Oklahoma.”

What is your current position and what kind of law practice do you specialize in?

“Since January 1, 2016, I have served as the Interim City Manager of the City of Muskogee. On October 24, 2016, I will return to my regular position of city attorney for the City of Muskogee. As city attorney my job is akin to general counsel for a corporation, and as such is very diverse. My areas include municipal law, torts, employment law, public finance law and criminal law.”

Why did you go into the legal profession?

“I was always fascinated by the law and government, and felt it would be a very rewarding and challenging career.”

What motivated you to accept a nomination as a Supreme Court Justice at CPN?

“It’s wonderful to be able to give back to the tribe and to use my knowledge and skills to ensure that at the appellate level cases are decided fairly, in a well-reasoned and sound manner in accordance with the CPN Constitution.”



Associate Justice Jane Braugh

Potawatomi family: Fregon

Education: University of Kentucky, Bachelor’s. University of Houston Law Center, J.D.

Where are you originally from?

“I am from Sarita, Kenedy County, Texas.”

What is your current position and what kind of law practice do you specialize in?

“Products liability on the plaintiff’s side.”

Why did you go into the legal profession?

“I wanted to pursue higher education and help others.”

What motivated you to accept a nomination as a justice on the CPN Supreme Court?

“It was an honor to have the opportunity to serve my tribe.”



Associate Justice Nick Jones

Potawatomi family: McKee

Education: University of Oklahoma, B.A. University of Oklahoma, J.D.

Where are you originally from? “Tulsa, Oklahoma.”

What is your current position and what kind of law practice do you specialize in?

“I am a director and preferred shareholder with my law firm, Barrow & Grimm, P.C. in Tulsa, Oklahoma. I focus my practice on business transactions and estate planning, including mergers and acquisitions, real estate, and financing transactions. I provide legal counsel to banks and companies of all sizes, from small business owners to large enterprises.”

Why did you go into the legal profession?

“I enjoy putting business deals together, and in my practice I provide legal counsel to clients entering into business ventures of all shapes and sizes. I get to develop lasting relationships with entrepreneurs and help small business owners realize their dream of starting a new business or expanding their business. Being at the center of these transactions that shape our communities is an exciting and rewarding experience.”

What motivated you to accept a nomination as a CPN Supreme Court justice?

“I was honored to be considered for nomination. Some years ago, I wrote Chairman Barrett to let him know he could call on me if the tribe ever needed anything. When presented with this chance to serve the tribe, I was all in.”



Associate Justice Jennifer Lamirand

Potawatomi family: Curley

Education: Bachelor of Arts in English from Oklahoma State University, 2004. University of Notre Dame Law School, Juris Doctor, 2008. Master of Laws degree with a specialization in International Business Law, London School of Economics and Political Science in London, England.

Where are you from originally?

“I was born in Shawnee, Oklahoma, and I attended my first years of school there. After Francis Tuttle Technology Center offered my mother a position teaching early childhood development in Oklahoma City, my family moved to Edmond. I entered Edmond schools after that move and graduated from Edmond North High School in 2000.”

What is your current position and what kind of law practice do you specialize in?

“I am currently an associate attorney at the law firm of Crowe & Dunlevy, P.C. in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. As a business litigator, I handle all manner of litigation matters in federal, state, and tribal courts and alternative dispute resolution forums. I specialize in matters involving federal Indian law, tribal law, securities law, insurance law, and contracts.”

Why did you go into the legal profession?

“It may sound cliché, but I entered the legal profession, because I wanted to use my English degree to somehow make a difference. One of my best friends from high school talked me in to joining a pre-law fraternity with her while we studied at OSU together. I attended some of the fraternity programs, and the speakers sparked my interest in the law. I realized that legal work can bring about great change, and it still utilized the skills I developed while studying for my English degree. I was also drawn to the constant evolution of the law and the corresponding need for lawyers to continually study to stay abreast of its changes, making it always new. No area of the law exemplifies this constant development more than Indian law, and this makes the Indian law area of my practice the most dynamic and impactful part of my work.”

What motivated you to accept a nomination as a Supreme Court Justice on the CPN Supreme Court?

“I have always wanted to contribute more to the Nation. I am greatly honored by the nomination to sit on the Court, and I view this opportunity as a way for me to serve our Nation, just as all members must do in order for our communities to thrive. *Migwetch* to all who supported my nomination!”

Foster and adoptive families key for Citizen Potawatomi youth

In recognition of November as National Adoption Month, we spoke to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian Child Welfare Department's specialist in charge of foster care and adoptions on the issues she sees families face in taking on these vital responsibilities.

Due to high profile adoptions like the [Baby Veronica](#) and Lexi Page cases, concerns and misunderstandings about the adoption of children with tribal heritage abound. Due to efforts of organizations like the Goldwater Institute, which aim to overturn the Indian Child Welfare Act that has sought to keep Native children in tribal homes after centuries of removals, it's little wonder that there is confusion amongst those who might otherwise be interested in adopting.

Darla Courtney has seen this first hand. [Since joining the Citizen Potawatomi Nation's Indian Child Welfare Department in 2009](#) as an adoption and foster care specialist, she has worked to educate potential foster and adoptive parents about the facts.

"Many families are afraid that if they go through the tribal ICW department to foster or adopt, they are at a huge risk of the tribe swooping in and yanking the child from their home just to move them elsewhere," she explained.

This has been a concern she's heard frequently since the 2015 case of Lexi Page, a Native American child removed from a non-Native foster home and placed with [biological relatives of her tribe, the Choctaw Nation](#). The case was widely covered in the U.S., but reporting on the part of local, state and national media concerning the Indian Child Welfare Act's provisions were erroneously reported, as noted in a [release from the Native American Journalists Association](#).

As Courtney explained, the headlines and misreported information aside, her department's mission is ultimately the protection of the Potawatomi children. In 2015, she oversaw the process that resulted in the adoption of eight children through the CPN Tribal Court system. In 2016, they have already had five children adopted. These figures only include those children through the tribal court system, though the CPN ICW department is notified by state authorities

PROTECT A POTAWATOMI CHILD'S DREAM BECOME A FOSTER PARENT



To preserve the culture of our Native children, tribal foster homes are desperately needed in Oklahoma and throughout the United States.

Many of our tribal children are placed in non-native homes when taken into state custody due to the lack of foster families.

With the Indian Child Welfare Act under attack and scrutiny, it is vital, now more than ever, for tribal children to have initial placement in tribal foster homes.

If you are an Oklahoma Resident willing to open your heart and home to our children in out-of-home placements, please contact our office for an application packet.

For those living outside of Oklahoma, contact our office for further information on becoming a tribal home in your state of residence.

FireLodge Children and Family Services
405-878-4831 | 1-800-880-9880

across the U.S. when a Potawatomi child is adopted through their systems.

The circumstances faced by potential adoptive families are challenging, yet Courtney offers counsel in the form of someone familiar with what they are facing. Her family once made the decision to become a foster home, where they provided a stable environment for a number of children.

"Personally knowing the ups, downs, tears and joy of fostering has given me a heart for my foster and adoptive parents," she explained.

She also knows well what lies ahead for the kids who are not adopted. It's difficult enough being a teenager, much less being one without a stable home or support system.

Said Courtney, "For those who are not adopted, they will remain in custody until they 'age out.' The majority will be on their own when they turn 18 years of age. Depending on certain criteria, the teen may have been eligible to enroll in an independent living program to prepare them for life on their own. For those who are ineligible, our department will do what we can to assist the teen."

While programs such as ICW can help in this regard, the best outcome

is to get the child into a foster family. Given the thinly stretched state and local resources, tribal programs like the CPNICW are always in search of foster homes and adoptive families. The first step is typically one of the hardest for families interested in exploring the possibility, but as Courtney explained, it's as simple as sending an email or making a phone call.

"Once we receive a call or email expressing interest in adoption, a packet is mailed to the prospective adoptive parent. The packet contains an application, background check forms and a copy of our ICW handbook for placement homes," she said.

Background checks, interviews and home inspections are the norm, which Courtney concedes may seem intrusive. Yet keeping with her department's mission, the research is done with the child and adoptive or foster family's best interests in mind.

Every circumstance has a unique story

Neil and Heather Mick first heard about the tribal foster care and adoption program through customers at their beauty salon in Tecumseh, Oklahoma. Neil said that upon learning of the CPN Indian Child Welfare program, his wife, who is also a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, set her

mind on adopting. As Neil explained it, they wanted to "do their part."

Initially starting off as a foster parent to one child in need of a foster home, the Micks count five adoptive children alongside their three biological children and a nephew. All told, they have nine children in their care, aged from four to 19 years old.

"I tell people that after four the noise level doesn't change much," joked Mick.

Their story isn't altogether unique, as many children in foster care also have siblings in the system. Adoptive families like the Micks end up taking on sibling groups to keep the children together. Of their five adoptive children, none were supposed to have been with the family for more than two weeks.

"We didn't get in this with the intention of adopting five children," he explained. "It was not our plan. But every circumstance has a unique story and it's difficult to walk away from those children after you've had them in foster care for six months, a year, and they're part of your family and then they come up for adoption."

Taking in a child from a broken home may seem daunting to a potential foster parent, but Mick noted that it was a positive experience.

"Whether you have a child for a week, or a month, or a year, that's a week, or a month, or a year that they're in a positive environment. That's how you have to look at it, that no matter how minute my part is in this child's life, I'm going to be a positive part of it. And then you just take it a day at a time."

Courtney, a former foster parent herself, echoed his sentiment.

"While the journey may be rough at times, they are planting a seed into a child's life. For foster parents, they seldom see the results of their efforts. For the adoptive parents, they are able to nurture the seed with love and stability until maturity occurs and the child blossoms to their full potential."

To learn more about the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Indian Child Welfare Department's foster care and adoption services, please call 800-880-9880 or visit <http://cpn.news/ICW>.

ARE YOU GRADUATING IN DECEMBER 2016?

SEND US THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AT GRADUATION@POTAWATOMI.ORG
FULL NAME, HOMETOWN, POTAWATOMI FAMILY NAME, HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE, DEGREE TYPE AND MAJOR

Wadasé update: November 2016

By Bree Dunham, CPN Eagle Aviary Assistant Manager

Summer was kind to us in Oklahoma this year with milder temperatures and ample rainfall. That same summer weather has lingered well into October. The trees are still full with leaves and the pasture remains green, but the landscape is finally starting to yield to fall's crisp night air as those greens give way to gold and orange hues. The wildlife around the aviary has changed as well. The turkeys have returned and are regular visitors to the deer feeder. Our resident red tailed hawks have started their aerial courtship displays and by dusk you can hear the great horned owl pairs calling back and forth throughout the night. We haven't seen one scissortail flycatcher this past week and the hummingbirds have all but disappeared except for migrants who stop at the feeders as they pass through. The sky overhead is full with migrants

heading south daily. We have spotted turkey vultures and black vultures drifting by in huge kettles, along with Mississippi kites, whip-poor-wills and pelicans, to name just a few. With all this activity we couldn't help but wonder if Wadasé Zhabwé would be on the move as well.

Studying Wadasé's telemetry over the past several weeks, we have noted that she has visited several new areas in the past few months. She spent nearly two weeks southwest of Mulhall on Skeleton Creek that runs into the Cimarron River. After her stay there she headed towards the South Canadian River. Once there, she meandered up and down the river, west past Union City and back east between Mustang and Tuttle. She even spent a few days working her way around Lake Overholser, but true to her routine she returned to the North Canadian River near the lake. Along with these new sites, she has returned to many areas she frequented in the past at this same time of year where there are active eagle nests. Perhaps those eagles have returned to the area and she is, once again, following adult eagles. But for the first time, as breeding season for eagles' approaches, she is in fact a mature adult eagle herself. There is a strong possibility that she could choose a mate and find a place to raise young this winter. She has spent the last three and a half years exploring new areas around the central third of the state and may already have a place in mind. We are always hopeful she might choose the aviary grounds but it has been months since her brief visit last February. Thankfully, we continue to get consistent data from her telemetry backpack and with a little luck, if she nests this season, we can continue monitor her progress as an adult.

We skipped an article in the previous paper because there was really no new information to share about Wadasé. In the past, when that's the case, she has been notorious for showing up the day before or of the deadline for the paper. This has resulted in us writing an article at the last minute, but this time she was a few days too late for our arti-

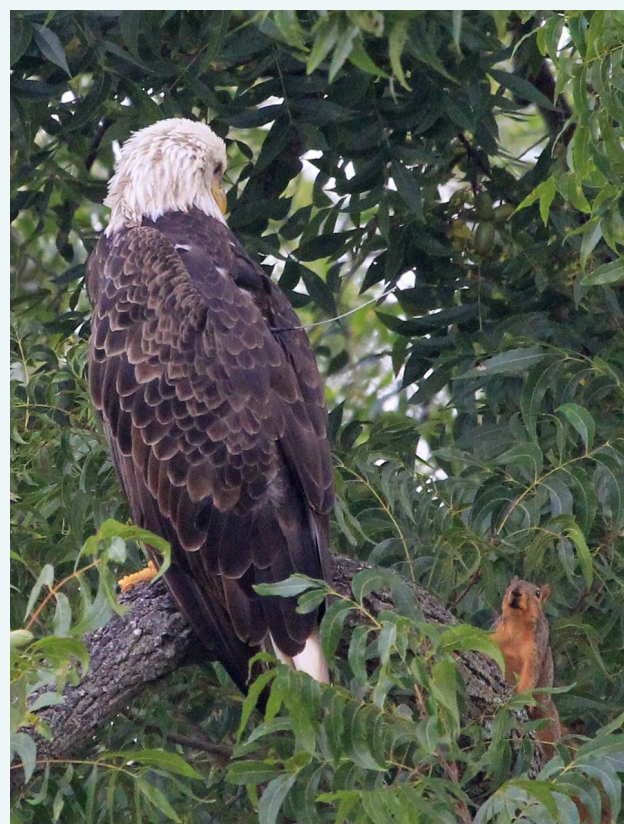
cle's inclusion in the October *Hownikan*. Shortly after the October paper's deadline, Wadasé began heading east towards Dale and since August she had not been that close to home.

On September 13 we heard the eagles calling throughout the day but never saw anything. Towards the end of the day we surveyed the sky above the pasture one more time as we headed out the door to lock up. When we stepped out onto the front sidewalk, we heard a familiar chatter. Wadasé was home! To our complete surprise, she was sitting on the corner of the aviary, watching us. 216 days had passed since her last visit. Nearly eight months had gone by, but she seemed right at home. Although this visit turned out much different than the last.

As always, we offered her food, and this time she didn't pass up a free meal. She spent the better part of the evening sitting and sunning on her favorite perch out front and just before dusk she flew to the east. The following morning, she arrived at sunup for breakfast and did so for the next six days.

Wadasé had not been here for more than 3 or 4 days in a row since the first year she was released. She also proved to be nearly impossible to photograph unless she was perched in obvious places. Not only was she hard to locate with the amount of leaves still on the trees but she was often sitting in new places and was much faster and capable when retrieving any food we provided.

During her time here we were able to download new telemetry data. Now we know that she actually came in the night before we saw her and was in the area the all of the following

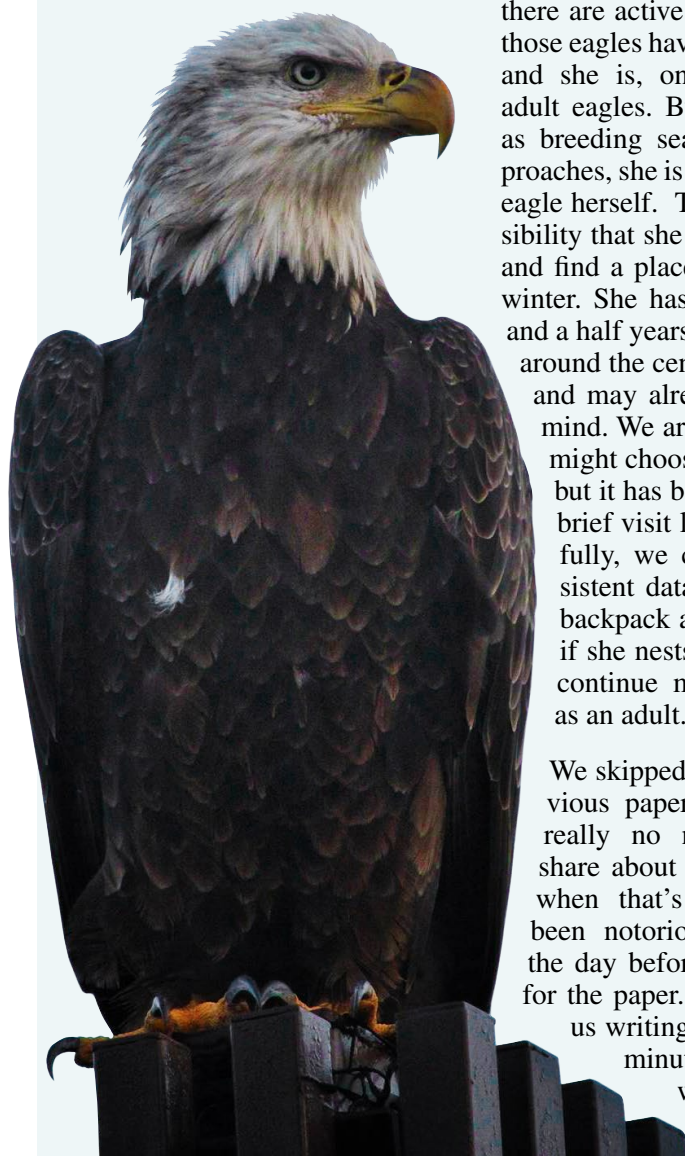


Clearly everyone isn't excited for Wadasé to be back in her pecan tree out front. This little guy left as fast as he appeared. He hit the ground running for the cover of another tree.

day. The eagles had seen her but we did not, at least not until she wanted us to.

Midday on September 20 she headed north towards the river. We didn't see her the rest of the day and the following morning she didn't return for breakfast. Perhaps this was her yearly visit or maybe she was checking the area for potential nest sites. However that knowledge isn't part of the satellite data provided by her telemetry, so we will have to wait and see. Until then we know that she is thriving in the wild and stronger and more equipped to survive in the wild than we had imagined. Wadasé Zhabwé is everything a warrior carrying all of our peoples prayers should be.

For more information about Wadasé or the other eagles at the aviary visit www.potawatomiheritage.org/#aviary. As always we encourage you to keep your eyes out for Wadasé if you are near the areas she frequents. Send your encounters with Wadasé or any other eagles in Oklahoma or wherever you may be to us at aviary@potawatomi.org.



Small business support continued...

saw Banc Holding Company and the Choctaw Federal Credit Union were other Native American-owned Oklahoma CDFIs receiving funds in the latest award.

"This milestone underscores the transformative impact CDFIs are having in low-income, distressed, and underserved communities and areas of persistent poverty," said the CDFI Fund's Donovan. "In businesses financed, real estate developed, affordable housing constructed and improved access to the financial system, CDFIs are empowering change and revitalization in their communities."

Since its creation in 1994, the Treasury Department's CDFI Fund has awarded more than \$2.2 billion to CDFIs, community development organizations and financial institutions. In addition, the CDFI Fund has allocated \$43.5 billion in tax credit allocation authority to community development entities through the New Markets Tax Credit Program, and \$852 million has been guaranteed in bonds through the CDFI Bond Guarantee Program.

If you're a Native American business owner, or are interested in starting your own business, please contact the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation at 405-878-4697 or visit www.cpcdc.org.

VISIT US ONLINE!



Language with Justin: November 2016

By Justin Neely,
CPN Language Director

I only have a brief article this month, as I wanted to provide everyone a primer on some Potawatomi questions and answers. Remember, if you'd like to learn the language at your own pace, visit our online courses for adults and children at language.potawatomi.org.

Bodéwadmimwen Kedwnen
(Potawatomi language phrases.)

Ni je ngom zagech?
How is the weather? (How is today outside?) (Nee juh nGome zah gich)

Mno gishget
It's a nice/ good day.
(Mih no geesh git)

Ksenyamget
It's cold. (Kuh sin yam git)

Gi gmowen ode waben nesh je mteno gwankwet odew jo pi.
It rained this morning but it's only cloudy right now. (geek mowin oduh nesh juh mTino gwan kwet odo jo pee)

Jigwekya - **It's thundering.**
(Jeegwehkyah)

Ne awen - **It's warm.** (Nay a win)

Ni je na? **How are you?** (Nee juh nah)

Anwe she shena - **I'm fine.**
(southern) (an way shu shunah)

Iw zhe anwe - **I'm fine.**
(northern) (ee zhuh anwuh)

Ndaknoga - **I'm sick.**
(Nuh dock no gah)

Nde-yekwes - **I'm tired.**
(nuhduh yuck wis)

*Nkikijpekwen*e - **My back is aching.**
(nuh key keech puckwin nay)

Ni pi je ezhyayen?
Where are you going?
(Nee pee juh ezh zhyayin)



Wawasmok - Lightning.

Nwigwam nde-zhya.
I am going to my house.
(Nuh weegwamim nuh duh zhyah)

Cho ngoji. Dawewgemgok ngi-zhyamen jeshek.
Nowhere. We just went to the store? (cho nuh go gee. Dow wow gum goke nuhgee zheeyahmin jushuck)

Gmnes ne gégo?
Do you need something?
(Guh muh nes nay gah go)

Ni je pi? **When?** (Nee juh pee)

Ni jetso dbegnék? **What time is it?**
(nee jet so dbuh guh nack)

Nmetsena. Ndbe giswas ngi-ngeton.
I don't know. I forgot/lost my watch. (Muh met suh nah. Nuhduh-bay gees wahs nuh gee nuhguh tone)

Noék apte dbegnék.
It is seven thirty.
(no ack aptuh duh buh guh nack)

Ngot watso waben. Mban!
It is six in the morning. Go to bed!
(nGoat watt so wabin. Muh bahn)

Nawkwek yawen. **It is noon.**
(now kwek yow in)

Wegni je wa zhechkeyen odanke gishgok?
What are you doing Saturday?
(Weg nee juh wah zhich kay yin oh dan kay geesh goke)

Nwigwamem nwi-dnes. **I am going to just hang around my house.**
(nweeg wahm im nwee duh nes)

Ngetsimek nwi-nishokmowak. **I am going to go help my parents.** (nuh get seemuk nuh wee nee shoke moe wack)

Numa gishgok ne gwi-wijewe?
Do you want to come with me on Sunday? (Numah geesh goke nay guh wee weejuh way)

Gete gwi-wijewen.
Sure I will come with you.
(gehtay guh wee wee juh win)

Gwi-mnes ne nishokmoyan.
Do you need my help? (guh wee muh ness nay nee shoke moe yan.)

Gwi-gwedemojge ne?
Are you going fishing?
(guh wee gweh deh moch gay nay)

Shonya ne gde- ton? **Do you have any money?** (shown yah nay guh day tone)

Nbokshka - **I am broke.**
(nuh boke shuh kah)

Bashyek mteno.
Only some pocket change.
(bash yuck mTino)

Mdatso mek wi nde-ton.
I have ten dollars.
(muh dot so muck wee nduh ton)

Wegni je wa byedoyen I mawjesh-nowen?
What are you bring to the get together/ meeting?
(weg nee juh wa byeh doe yin ee mowjeshnowin)

Wishkebabo nwi-byédon.
I am bringing pop.
(Weesh kuh bahbo)

Des nagnen nwi-byédonen.
I am bringing plates. (plural)
(Des nag nin nu wee byah dohn in)

Washkbek pkweshgen nwi-byédomen. **We are bringing a cake.**
(Wash kuh beck puh kwesh gin nuh wee byah doe min)

Ni pi je I gmizigemek?
Where is your bathroom? (nee pee juh ee guh meezee gum goke)

Shkwach shkwadém nmenji.
The last door on the right.
(shkwach shkwa dam nuh min gee)

Azhosek - **The next room over.**
(Azho suck)

Wiye wgi-ye abdek babwichgen.
Some is in there you will have to wait. (Wee yay wuh gee yay abduck bob weech gin)

Shpemsegok skebgya shkwadém.
Upstairs the green door.
(Shuhpum suh goke skehb geeyah shkwa dam)

CPN Veterans report: November 2016



By Daryl Talbot, Commander

Bozho,

With the growing concern for the homeless veterans across the coun-

try, I have learned of a new Veteran's Administration program that was created to deal with the problem called the VA Medical Foster Home. The medical foster home is an alternative to a nursing home setting for

eligible veterans who are no longer able to safely live independently.

The Prescott VA in Arizona started the medical foster home program in March 2012 and today has four homes serving six veterans. The VA's Home Based Primary Care team is a vital part of the medical foster home program and the HBPC staff makes visits to provide home assessment, caregiver support and education. Direct patient care for the medically complex veterans placed in these homes is important for the program. It may be the answer for veterans who require nursing home care but prefer a non-institutional setting with fewer residents.

I think it is fitting that Veterans Day and Thanksgiving are celebrated in

November. They are two days that we can show our thanks for the blessings we have received. I still feel a sense of pride when strangers recognize me as a veteran and shake my hand and say, "Thank you for your service."

We will not have a November meeting, but will have our Thanksgiving/Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, 13 December at 6:00 P.M. in the North Reunion Hall at the CPN Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN and spouse veterans and their families are welcome. A meal is provided.

Migwetch.

FireLodge Tribal Youth update: November 2016

By Darin Greene, FireLodge Tribal Youth Coordinator

In November, the tribal youth will celebrate Native American Heritage Month by learning about Native American singing, pottery and drumming from a number of different tribes. The tribal youth will also enjoy traditional Native American foods such as corn soup, Indian tacos, poyha and wild rice with chicken. The tribal youth are planning their annual Thanksgiving community dinner feed for 200 youth and adults.

Get Smart Program: Each tribal youth member is encouraged to join in the Native American essay contest. This year's essay asks them to write about their experience in a Native American community and the culture that inspires them. They will then be sent to the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian to be judged. Each essay contest winner will get an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. to visit the museum and other prominent sites and a \$2,500 college scholarship.

Another component of this month's activities under the Get Smart Program is that the tribal youth will learn about the 37 tribal colleges and universities in the U.S., which include Haskell Indian Nations University, Comanche Nation College and the College of the Muscogee Nation. We are very proud of the tribal youth because we checked their grades and they were great. Students from Gordon Cooper Technology Center come every Wednesday to tutor the youth, and our academic support staff Ben McAlister and Wilson Littlehead tutor throughout the week.

Get Fit Program: The tribal youth started an Indigenous fitness program which includes running, push-ups and native line runs. The youth will be introduced to the art of using a bow to hit clay pigeons and taught how to play the game Chunky and traditional hand games.

If you have a tribal youth that would be interested in our FireLodge Tribal Youth or PLACE programs, please call 405-214-5110 or email dgreene@potawatomi.org.



Tribal youth Beau Favre and Emma Ford working on a bullying project.

Legislative roundup



Eva and Generation Indigenous and CPN member Trae Trousdale at the White House Tribal Nations Conference.



Wisest in attendance, Jim Coder, 92 years old with Jon Boursaw.



Youngest, Shonyas Deerinwater, 21 months old with her mother and Gene Lambert.



Three generations, Jolyn Marlow and Antoinette Marlow and Marlene Perez at the district 5 meeting.



Furthest travelled at the district 5 meeting, Tommy Hoeman from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.



Wisest at the district 5 meeting, June Blooding at 90.5 years old.



Bozho Nikanek,
(Hello my friends)

As the holiday season approaches, please allow me to express my sincere thanks for the privilege of serving as tribal chairman. As I have in the past, I also want to encourage all of you to use the occasion of the holidays to gather family members together to share old family stories. It is more important than ever for us to put our cell phones away and enjoy our friends and family.

November is filled with activities and other important dates. For instance, November is Native American Heritage Month, and learning more about our Potawatomi people as well as the issues facing tribes around the country is vitally important. Our website at www.potawatomi.org has a wealth of information on the day-

Tribal Chairman - John "Rocky" Barrett

to-day goings on at CPN, while for those interested in learning about the history or culture of our tribe, the CPN Cultural Heritage Center and its website are fine resources. Visit the latter at www.potawatomiheritage.org.

November 11 is also Veteran's Day. American Indians serve in our armed forces at a higher per capita rate than any other ethnic group, and 27 of those have been awarded the Medal of Honor. I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of our tribal veterans across the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, as well as all who have served in the armed forces. Our CPN Veterans Organization meets once a month, and they have a monthly column in this newspaper, so if you would like to learn more about veteran services or programs, please get in touch with them.

As we all know, Thanksgiving is at the end of this month and while the significance of the holiday may have a different meaning for Native Americans, the modern-day incarnation still provides an opportunity to bring together loved ones for a shared meal. As you read this, our tribal

employees are in the midst of a contest in which every department donates food to our CPN Employment and Training Department's Thanksgiving dinner drive. Each year E&T distributes more than a hundred boxes with Thanksgiving food ingredients to neighbors in the community in need. It's a program I'm proud of, and is just a drop in the bucket of what is CPN support of our Pottawatomie County community.

Hopefully by the time you read this, election season will be over. In either case we will have a new state representative in the Shawnee-area, and we look forward to working with all our state representatives in the coming legislative session. Since the oil industry, on which Oklahoma's economy is so reliant, continues to struggle, tribal revenues, gaming fees and payrolls remain some of the most significant drivers of economic growth in the state. Many local legislators recognize that, but we will keep working with our allies at the state capitol to make that clear in the coming year.

Speaking of issue at the state capitol, we are hopeful-

ly nearing decisions in our court cases, many of which began due to intransigence from the governor's office. The 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver has received our briefings in the sales tax and liquor license-related case in which the state government, under the direction of the governor, has sought to essentially knee cap our operations to force us into being their sales tax collectors. We remain confident that the court, like all of the the previous judges and arbitrator's before it, will rule in our favor.

On the issue of Pottawatomie County Rural Water District 3, the judge has yet to make a decision. The state still insists that the water district is not a legal entity. This remains a staggeringly hypocritical position considering the water district operated without opposition for more than a decade until the governor decided she needed sales tax money from tribal enterprises. We look forward to the conclusion of this action so that the RWD3 budget can be focused on putting pipe in the ground and getting clean, potable water to rural Oklahomans.

One final note. We at CPN understand the value of education, which is why we have gone so far in recent years to extend higher education opportunities to our tribal members. Graduating from high school or college is a proud accomplishment, and each December and May, we recognize those who have graduated in the previous semester in this very newspaper. In order to post these notices, we need to hear from you if you will be graduating from high school or college in December 2016. If you, or someone you know is, please tell them to email graduation@potawatomi.org with the following. Please do so without delay, as the deadline for submissions is November 20.

Name, hometown, Potawatomi family name, school/university name, degree and major.

As always, it is an honor to serve as your tribal chairman.

Migwetch,

John "Rocky" Barrett
Keweoge
"He leads them home."
Tribal Chairman



Vice-Chairman - Linda Capps

me to meet Mr. Burden. He is a man who knows more about healthy eating and living than I could ever hope to learn. He is a proof-positive man who has practiced what he believes, and has experienced the benefits that a healthy life style can offer. We did not get to spend enough time with Mr. Burden, who was accompanied by a representative of the Avedis Foundation. Theirs was a fact-finding mission to investigate the resources of the Potawatomi Nation as a whole, while helping to assess the needs of the entire community.

Mr. Burden's team is studying all possibilities as they evaluate the prospect of our community becoming a Blue Zone. His research will provide valuable input for his team in working with Avedis and other organizations within the Shawnee community. My appreciation goes out to the Avedis Foundation for their initiative to bring the Blue Zones concept and team to our area.

When you think of how many communities are in our *Hownikan* audience, it is quite enlightening. Our publication of 15,000 news-

papers goes out to every state and several countries. Perhaps your community would want to reach out to the Blue Zones team in order to learn more about the process. The following is a list of two Blue Zones team members who have visited Shawnee, and also a list of some of Dan Buettner's books. Dan is a brother to Tony Buettner.

Tony Buettner,
Sr. Vice President,
Blue Zones can be reached at 612-596-3600 or info@blue-zones.com

Dan Burden,
Director of Innovation & Inspiration, Blue Zones can be Reached at 612-596-3600, C. 614-595-0976 or dan.burden@bluezones.com

Dan Buettner, *New York Times* Best-Selling Author

"The Blue Zones Solution: Eating and Living Like the World's Healthiest People" (2015)

"Thrive: Finding Happiness the Blue Zone Way" (2010)
"The Blue Zones; Lessons for Living Longer from the People Who Have Lived the Longest" (2008)



Dan Burden, Linda Capps and Richard Driskell.

This column is a continuation of my article from last month about community Blue Zones. I appreciate the comments that some of you have shared; therefore, I have included some pertinent information for you to review.

This week Richard Driskell, executive director of the CPN grocery and convenience store operations, and I met with Dan Burden. Mr. Burden is the Blue Zones Director on Innovation & Inspiration. He brought Richard and me a surprise gift of the book entitled "The Blue Zones Solution" by Dan Buettner, a *New York Times* best-selling author. The book was published by the National Geographic Society in 2015.

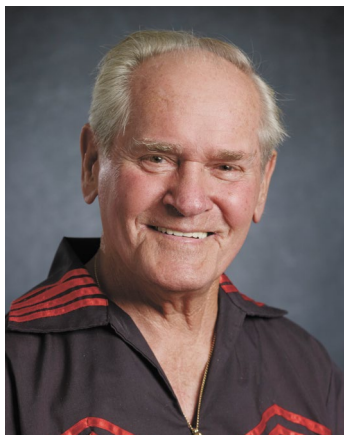
It was, indeed, a pleasure for both Richard Driskell and

Please Google "books by Dan Buettner" on the Internet to view sources for the hard copy books and audio versions.

I hope you appreciate the information that I have included. The people referenced are top-notch professionals known for providing expertise to help make communities successful. I believe that each week our own community is making progress. A philosophy of living healthier, happier and longer lives is

in line with positive thinking and a more wholesome, spiritual way of life. Whether we have scores of years to remain on this earth or less than that many, we should strive to make our lives better.

Migwetch,
Linda Capps
"Segenakwe"
Vice-Chairman
405-275-3121 office
405-650-1238 cell
lcapps@potawatomi.org



District 1 - Roy Slavin

Bozho Nikan,

On October 1 we had our District 1 meeting in Burlington, Vermont.

What a great time to be in Vermont. The weather was perfect and the trees were turning and very beautiful. We were told at the hotel that this is their busy time because of the foliage. Our meeting went well and was well attended. We honored our wisest member, youngest member and the one who traveled the furthest.

Our wisest member was Joyce Kritkauskay from Binghamton, New York. Our youngest member was Bjorn

Coburn from Ripton, Vermont. Bjorn also received his Potawatomi name after the meeting.

The furthest travelled were James and Janet Anderson from Riverhead, New York. Also in attendance was Eva Carney, CPN District 2 representative, and her husband Alan from Virginia. I must add also that Eva was a great help and greatly appreciated at both the meeting and the naming ceremony that followed.

The naming ceremony was held at North Beach Park, a beautiful location. I talked with the park manager prior to the naming and told him what our needs were for the ceremony. He had everything set up for us, including firewood in the fire pit. Southern hospitality has nothing on these folks.

I arranged with one of our Potawatomi Leadership Program alumna, Susannah Howard, to speak of her ex-



Wisest Joyce Kritkauskay from Binghamton, New York.



Furthest travelled, James Anderson from Riverhead, New York.



Youngest, Bjorn Coburn from Ripton, Vermont.

periences at CPN headquarters this past summer. At the last minute she had a college course come up that demanded her time, so she made a video of her experience and it worked very well. Thank you Susannah, you did great.

My wife Julia and I are now making plans for the week end to attend a powwow of the Iowa Tribe at White

Cloud, Kansas. White Cloud was named for one of their chiefs. It's always a fun thing and they also have a great little casino that serves wonderful homemade food, especially the catfish fresh out of the Missouri River that is almost within sight of the casino and their tribal grounds. To get there we have to drive through a game preserve where there are many eagles.

It is always a great trip, one that we make regularly.

Igiwen (heartfelt thanks) for allowing me the privilege of serving as your District 1 representative.

Roy Slavin
Netagtege (Forever Planting)
roslavin@potawatomi.org



District 2 - Eva Marie Carney

Bozho nikanek!

(Hello my friends)

This year's Fall Feast: The 2016 Fall Feast, combining CPN family and friends in Districts 1 and 2, is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 12, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Arlington, Virginia. Please see the printed invitation for all details and please do RSVP by November 7 so that we have enough supplies for all! Leslie Deer will be our special guest instructor,

teaching Potawatomi regalia applique and dance, but even if you think you are not "arty," "handy" or "a dancer," you may either surprise yourself or take advantage of the opportunity the feast provides to visit with other kindly folks.

The next NMAI Archives visit is Friday, Feb. 17, 2017: We will meet up for lunch before, in the Archives of the National Museum of the American Indian complex, in Suitland, Maryland (which is on a metro stop) and then tour Potawatomi household and personal items in the NMAI collection. There is a maximum of 10 persons per tour, so please RSVP when your plans coalesce. More details are posted on the 'Calendar' page of www.evamariecarney.com. I scheduled this for

a long weekend with the idea that folks from all over the country who may not have visited previously may have the time to travel here and enjoy this opportunity. I'm look forward to visiting with all the participants.

White House conference: The last White House Tribal Nations Conference of this administration was held September 26; I had the honor of representing our tribal nation at the conference, and have posted photos I took of the speakers and ceremony here: <http://tinyurl.com/WHTNC>. It was a celebration of a productive relationship with the United States over the last eight years, and a cautionary tale that we as Native people need to be right in the face of U.S. representatives to ensure that they are clear that *we are still here!* Native



Relaxing after our Burlington meeting are Julia Slavin, Eva Marie Carney, Alan Cohen and Roy Slavin.

youth were given a starring role during the conference, and I was exceedingly proud that one of our own, Trae Trousdale, was selected to attend the conference as part of Generation Indigenous. It was a pleasure to meet this young man – still a high school senior – and his dear grandmother, and to visit with him during the conference about his leadership vision and passion for Native sovereignty.

Vermont CPN meeting: Roy Slavin and I, with our spouses Julia Slavin and Alan Cohen, traversed the east coast for the CPN District 1 meeting in Burlington, Vermont on October 1. Roy orchestrated an engaging meeting and also conducted a naming afterwards for a delightful 10 year old. We were treated to a delicious feast after the naming and enjoyed

time with the extended Kritkauskay family. Thanks to our hosts for the lovely time and hospitality; Alan and I hope to return to Vermont soon. Photos of the weekend are available here: <http://tinyurl.com/VTnaming>.

As a side note, getting to Vermont was "interesting." I had to be in Manhattan the day and evening before the Vermont meeting. My 10 p.m. flight from New York's LaGuardia Airport to Burlington was cancelled and there was no way to get to Vermont by morning but to drive there. Argh.

I started driving after midnight and, thankfully, arrived to have coffee with the Slavins and my husband (who had flown to Burlington, successfully, on Friday)

Continued on page 19

Fall CPN Family Feast for Districts 1 and 2

NOVEMBER 12TH • 10:30AM TO 2PM

Church Hall of the Little Falls Presbyterian Church
6025 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA 22207
(703) 538-5230 • www.littlefallschurch.org

Free parking, handicap accessible. Please bring a dish to share (family style). We will provide entrées and drinks. The CPN Cultural Heritage Center's Leslie Deer will discuss regalia, teach Potawatomi appliqué design and southern cloth style dance. We will raffle items, host a giveaway for all attendees, and, time permitting, teach traditional hand games. Children are welcome.

To ensure we have enough craft supplies, please **RSVP by November 7** to ecarney@potawatomi.org or roslavin@potawatomi.org or leave a message with your contact details and names of attendees and how many children (with their ages) on the District 1 CPN voicemail number at **1 (888) 741-5767** or District 2 at **1 (866) 961-6988**.



District 2 - Eva Marie Carney continued...

around 8 a.m. Saturday. I don't recommend driving the New York Thruway overnight. Too many trucks and a lot of ground fog. Especially if you have a broken elbow (it turns out, as I found out later, that I'd fractured my elbow a couple days before as a result of a slip and fall

in my building lobby). I always will recall the delight of seeing the lights shining in the dairy barns just around dawn, as I drove across the New York-Vermont border, telling me that, like me, others were up and tending to the business at hand.

Migwetch and keep in touch: Thank you for these opportunities as your legislator. If you have questions, comments or ideas to share with me I hope you will do so through email, phone or letter. Please don't be put off by the distance between us.

Building our CPN community in District 2 continues to be my top priority as your legislator.

Kindest regards and *bama pi* (til later),

Eva Marie Carney
Ojindiskwe

Legislator, District #2
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
2200 North George Mason Drive
P.O. Box 7307
Arlington, VA 22207
ecarney@potawatomi.org
Toll Free: 866-961-6988
evamariecarney.com



Bozho nikanek,
(Hello friends)

District 3 - Bob Whistler

This year I was looking at the 2017 premiums for the plan that I am in and the monthly fee is going to be \$119 per month, versus the 2016 premium of \$85. That plan is the PPO Premium. In checking with the insurance broker that I use, I determined that I can drop down to the next level, and my 2017 monthly premium will drop to \$39 per month. That change will have only a small impact on my overall medical costs.

First, I will be saving \$468 in premiums annually. However, my office visits will go up from \$5 to \$10 and my specialist charge will go up from \$20 to \$25. I see my regular doctor about three times each year, and see maybe four specialists each year. So we are looking at my office calls costing me \$60 more with the lower plan. Basically, I will save \$408 in 2017. Ironically, the co-pay areas in both plans are the same. This plan is only available in Dallas, Tarrant, Johnson and Denton counties. However, there are other plans in other parts of Texas that may save you money.

If you live in Texas, and need help in reviewing this, please contact me and I will put you in touch with the broker I use. You do not want to simply call one of the insurance company agents. They sell only the company they represent, whereas a broker can search all the various options.

The Affordable Care Act has had its good points as far as making insurance available to some who were previously uninsurable. Sadly though, it has also resulted in many doctors refusing to accept new patients especially if

Texas and New Mexico Citizen Potawatomi members,
join us for a joint district meeting in Lubbock!

National Ranching Heritage Center and Museum
3121 4th St,
Lubbock, TX 79409

Sat, Nov. 5, 2016
10:30 to 3 pm

Please RSVP by Oct. 31, 2016 to
Bob Whistler (817-229-6217)
cpn3legislator@yahoo.com
or Gene Lambert (480-228-6569)
euniceilambert@gmail.com

Learn more about CPN programs, benefits, and culture with District 3 Rep. Bob Whistler and District 5 Rep. Gene Lambert

It is that time of year where we have the opportunity to review our health insurance, and possibly make changes. No doubt you may be wondering what you can do to reduce your costs. Well there are opportunities especially for seniors. Anyone over the age of 65 is eligible for Medicare and it comes to you automatically. The monthly premium is deducted from your Social Security check. What many don't know is that you can go to an insurance broker, and have them look at the various plans out there that you may use at no additional cost! Or you may opt to get one of the supplemental plans. Some of them of course will result in your having to pay an additional monthly premium.

In the Dallas-Fort Worth area there is a plan that is called [Care N' Care](#) that I use. I have been using their premium plan for several years since it includes both dental as well as prescription drugs. If I had stayed with basic Medicare, I would have had to get a secondary plan called Part D which can be very expensive, and you must sort through many plans to verify that they have the prescription drugs you require available in their formulary.

you are on basic Medicare. If you rely upon Medicaid, it is even worse and almost impossible to get medical attention with the exception of going to an emergency room.

With the Affordable Care Act, you don't have many agents willing to come out to your house to sell you medical insurance. The insurance companies have had their rates reduced so badly that they reduced the agents' sales commissions from 20 percent for new policies and six percent for renewals to six percent for new policies and two percent for renewals. That is almost a 70 percent drop in their commissions.

The physicians are almost in the same position, with their billing rates being cut dramatically, and they now have to submit much more detail in order to receive payment.

In addition to these factors associated with our insurance and medical care, the Affordable Care Act had

some hidden tax increases that went into effect on January 1, 2016. These are the tax changes that went into effect: Medicare tax went from 1.45 percent to 2.35 percent. Top income tax bracket went from 35 percent to 39.6 percent. The top payroll tax went from 37.4 percent to 52.2 percent. Capital gains tax went from 15 percent to 28 percent. The dividend tax went from 15 percent to 39.6 percent. The estate tax went from zero to 55 percent. Finally there is a new 3.5 percent tax on some real estate transactions. It is terrible that those who represent us in Washington D.C. didn't read that legislation before it was passed. We are coming to the end of this year, and I felt that you should be made aware of these tax changes. Many may not be impacted, but with this information some of you may be able to adjust some of your financial dealings to reduce your federal tax impact.

If the *Hownikan* arrives at your place before Tuesday, November 8, be sure to vote!

I thank you for the honor of being your elected representative and hope that I am serving you well. Please contact me if you feel I can assist you with questions about our Nation. In regard to the period for making medical insurance company changes, you have until December 7. Call me if you wish to have the name of the broker that I use. I do not get a commission. It is simply my way of bringing you information and hopefully a way to potentially save you money.

Bob Whistler
Bmashi (He soars)
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
District 3 Representative
112 Bedford Rd., Ste 116
Bedford, TX 76022
817-229-6271 Cell
817-545-1597 Home
rwhistler@potawatomi.org
cpn3legislator@yahoo.com

Hownikan

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

CPN Executive Committee

Tribal Chairman: John "Rocky" Barrett
Vice-Chairman: Linda Capps
Sec./Treas.: D. Wayne Trousdale

Editorial Staff

Editor: Jennifer Bell
Deputy Editor: John VanPool
Photographer: Bo Apitz
Writer: Brandy Oswald
Copy Editor: Sheila Goff
Page Designer: Trey DeLonais
Graphic Artist: Emily Guleserian
Writer: Taylor Doran

The *Hownikan* is published by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions for non-members are available for \$10/yr. in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries. The *Hownikan* is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Reprint permission is granted with publication credit to the *Hownikan*. Editorials/letters are subject to editing and must contain traceable address.

All correspondence should be directed to *Hownikan*,
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801
Questions: hownikan@potawatomi.org or 800-880-9880

Address changes should be sent to Citizen Potawatomi Tribal Rolls,
1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801



District 4 - Jon Boursaw

erans Day causes me to think back over my own career. Little did I know in the fall of 1961 when I pinned on my shiny new gold bars of a second lieutenant and reported into my first assignment in northern Vermont that I would have a career of more than 24 years in the U.S. Air Force.

Main Street of St. Albans, Vermont, assisting in laying a wreath on a Canadian memorial in North Bay, Ontario, delivering a Veterans Day message in Aviano, Italy, and carrying the US flag down Main Street of Shawnee, Oklahoma as part of the CPN Veterans Organization Color Guard.

Now I'm the one listening to the speeches, saluting as the flag goes by, and shaking hands with the other veterans, and I don't even know their names. But we all have that one thing in common, we answered the call and we served.

Unfortunately many former military service members, for a variety of reasons, do not want to be recognized as veterans or participate in veteran activities or organizations. I feel that anyone who wore the uniform and received a discharge under honorable conditions should be proud of the fact that he or she served this proud country and are worthy of being recognized for doing so. To all veterans, we will never forget the sacrifices you've made to protect our nation's freedom.

Thanksgiving Day: It goes without saying that we all have a lot to be thankful for again this year. Remember Thanksgiving is not just for expressing thanks for what

Like most veterans I have the memories of those countless friendships created and although several have been maintained over the years, most, unfortunately, have been lost, and only the memories survive. During my career I had to privilege of working for some great officers from whom I learned what leadership and devotion to duty was all about. But as an officer, I have the greatest respect and appreciation for the dozens of NCOs and airmen who I had the honor of leading, working with and knowing. Without their dedication to duty and loyalty, I would not have had the career I was fortunate to have.

I have been on both ends of the spectrum of observing Veterans Day. Some of my Veterans Day activities over the past 50-plus years include leading the squadron down the

Two significant dates occur in November, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving Day. I would like to reflect on both.

Veterans Day: I would like to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to all CPN members who are currently serving our nation, and to my fellow CPN veterans for their service and sacrifices. Maybe it is an age thing, but anymore the thought of Vet-



Youngest, Tyce Hambrick, three years old.



Furthest travelled, Matt Clift, of Cushing, Oklahoma.

you have, it is also a time to be grateful for what you are going to have. Please take a moment on Thanksgiving Day and give thanks to those service men and women who are away from their families and loved ones on that day. Peggy and I wish that your Thanksgiving is full of love, warmth, and extra special moments. Have a wonderful and happy Thanksgiving!

2017 CPN Family Reunion Festival Honored Families: Next year's honored families are Bourassa, Burnett, Melot, Navarre, Peltier, Wamego, Willmet and Vieux.

Something for you to think about: A single candle can

illuminate an entire room, a true friend dazzles up an entire lifetime.

As always, it is my pleasure to serve as your legislative representative.

Migwetch,

Jon Boursaw, *Wetase Mkoh*
CPN District 4 Rep.
(O) 785-861-7272
(C) 785-608-1982
jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org
Office Hours:
Tuesday 9-11 a.m.
Thursday 3-5 p.m.
Other times - Please call



District 5 - Gene Lambert

three and four generations in attendance. Wow!

This is what it is about. Our future as a Nation depends on it.

I encourage you all, regardless of your district or tribal jurisdiction, to attend and be sure to bring grandma, grandpa, mom, dad, children, aunts, uncles and cousins to join us in a tribal bonding.

As they walk on or as they become adults, it remains that golden thread we share.

While our ancestors hold our past, we are responsible for our future and that of our children.

We grow, we learn, we share. Let's do it together.

The last year has brought many new opportunities. In the same way we let go of things in the past.

The story of the two wolves that live inside each of us fighting for control is still one of my personal favorites. One is negative, spiteful, full of ego and the other loving,

kind, gentle, forgiving and understanding.

The survival depends on which one you feed.

Which one are you feeding? Let's look forward not back.

See the good in others, not the mistakes we all make.

Listen from the heart.

The pictures of these multiple generations you see below represent what this article is all about. While everything did not go as planned, it was a highly successful meeting as we worked together to make it a great!

Wishing you all the best of the holiday season. Thanking you for the lessons I have learned. You are my teachers.

We were limited on space in this print edition of the paper, so see the digital version of the November Hownikan for all our District 5 Denver photos at www.potawatomi.org/hownikan.

Gene Lambert

euniceilambert@gmail.com



Three generations, Connor and Heidi Hart and Rita Groess.



Four generations, grandson Brayden Guerra, daughter Audrey Lewis, Stephanie Demott and Grandfather Gerald Butch Lewis.

This is the time of year we celebrate and give gratitude for all the many gifts we receive daily from our Creator.

We have many things to acknowledge this "Thanksgiving Day."

Family gatherings are at the top of the list for most of us. This is why we have all the district meetings and sharing of our mutual ancestors. Our heritage in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation becomes the family reunion.

We have our Native heritage and we bring together our individual families to share it with one another.

I was amazed and delighted at the recent attendance in Colorado of all the participating families with two,



District 6 - Rande K. Payne

Bozho nikanek,
(Hello my friends)

Ironically, I'm writing my November *Hownikan* column about Native American Heritage Month on Columbus Day, which is one of those weird holidays that have some banks open, some not. Some schools are out, some are not. Some government offices are closed, some are not. So it's a hodge podge of inconsistencies and I've noticed that not many people even talk about the hol-

iday. So, in light of all these inconsistencies and the fact that not many people seem to care, my question is, why do we have this holiday?

Not that Columbus was necessarily a bad guy or the one to blame for what would later happen to the indigenous people of the Americas but his "discovery" of the New World changed it forever. Many would view Columbus's motives as questionable rather than noble and some of the things he did should be condemned rather than celebrated. Columbus was a talented and ambitious man and for that he should be recognized. Even though his calculations were incorrect regarding the passage-way from Europe to Asia, he was a skilled navigator and a somewhat skilled at the art of persuasion in being able to garner financial support from

Spanish monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella. Perhaps it was greed that made them easy to convince that they should fund his exploits.

Columbus and the Spanish monarchs shared in their desire to spread Catholicism and make themselves rich. Maybe their goals weren't necessarily evil desires, but it was the method of achievement that comes into question. Side note: If you have not seen the 1991 film "Black Robe" I would recommend it highly. In my opinion, the film offers valuable perspective of how Christianity was presented to Native Americans, in this case Algonquins, and how it was received by them. I think the film is a great depiction of the earliest encounters Native Americans had with Europeans.

Something that isn't discussed much is the fact that Columbus used enslaved natives in his search for riches. Failing to produce the much anticipated gold and silver for the monarchs, Columbus at one point sent a group of nearly five hundred slaves to Queen Isabella instead. To the queen's credit, she quickly returned Columbus's gift.

Ultimately, Columbus's legacy is a mixed bag of successes and failures. While some credit him with discovering the Americas, other explorers visited the New World long before Columbus. What Columbus left in his wake was an onslaught of relentless exploitation of the Americas and its early inhabitants.

Please excuse the fact that I didn't write much about

Native American Heritage Month. I guess I got a little sidetracked. So, happy belated Indigenous People's Day! And I hope you have an enjoyable Native American Heritage Month as well as a great Thanksgiving!

Wisdom from the Word: Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." Luke 12:15

Migwetch!

Bama pi,

Rande K. Payne
Mnedo Gabo
Legislator District 6
31150 Road 180
Visalia, CA 93292-9585
(559) 999-3525 office
(559) 999-5411 cell
rande.payne@potawatomi.org



District 7 - Mark Johnson

Bozho nikanek,
(Hello friends)

As the fall season settles into the West, it is again time to get your fall semester graduation announcements in for anyone graduating high school or college in December 2016. Please email the following information to graduation@potawatomi.org and they will be announced in a following issue of the *Hownikan*.

- Name
- Hometown
- Potawatomi family name
- Degree/Major
- School name

Far and away the most popular benefit available to our membership in District 7 is the Scholarship program, so popular in fact that the Nation established the CPN Department of Education in October of 2016. Applications can now be submitted online and you can log in at any time to check on the application's status. Now there is only one scholarship available to you each semester, \$2,000 for full-time students and \$750 for part-time students.

The CPN Tribal Rolls, housing, and higher education scholarships have now been consolidated into one award, the CPN Tribal Scholarship. Students also now have advising and internship support available to them through the department. More information and the online application can be found at: <http://www.potawatomi.org/services/education> you can also contact them by email at [\[lege@potawatomi.org\]\(mailto:lege@potawatomi.org\) or by phone at 405-275-3121.

Once again, I would like to say what an honor it is to serve you as your District 7 representative. As always give me a call and I will be happy to work with you on any questions you may have, or provide you with additional information you may need to access tribal benefits that you are entitled to. Please also take the time to give me a call or send me an email with your contact information so that I can keep you informed of the happenings within the Nation and district.

Migwetch / Thank You,
Mark Johnson / *Wisk Mtek*
\(Strong as a Tree\)
Representative, District 7
1565 Shaw Ave., Suite 202
Clovis, CA. 93611
\(559\) 351-0078 cell
\[Mark.Johnson@potawatomi.org\]\(mailto:Mark.Johnson@potawatomi.org\)](mailto:col-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

You are invited to the

CPN District 6 & 7

Potawatomi Heritage Festival

Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016
at 10 am

..... to

Sunday, Nov. 6
at 1pm

...

31150 Road 180 Visalia, CA 93292

...

Take part in crafting, archery, ceremonies, a traditional feast, games, and more.

Accommodations can be made at local hotels in Visalia within 15 minutes of Festival grounds

(559) 999-3525 **RSVP** <http://cpn.news/CAGathering>

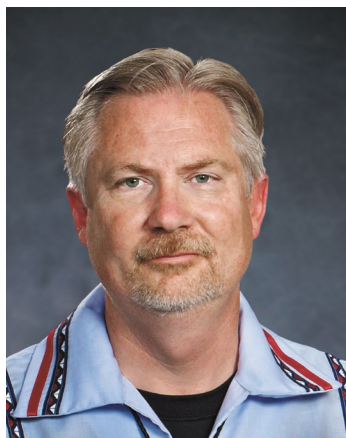
with this information:

- CPN legislative district number,
- Names of all attendees
- Tribal TD numbers of CPN members

TRIBAL ELECTION NOTICE

The office of tribal chairman and CPN Legislative Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4 are up for election on CPN Election Day, June 24, 2017. Those running for the office of tribal chairman must reside in the State of Oklahoma and be 35 years old on Election Day. Candidates for the legislative districts must reside in the district in which they are running and be at least 18 on Election Day. A map of the tribal legislature can be found at <http://cpn.news/CPNMap>. Candidate filing forms must be in the hands of the CPN Election Committee by no later than 5 p.m. CST on January 11, 2017 to be considered. These declarations must be filed through U.S. Postal Service. Filing forms can be requested by writing to hownikan@potawatomi.org. Candidate filing forms will be available starting in November 2016.

TRIBAL ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE ANNUAL FAMILY REUNION FESTIVAL ON JUNE 25, 2017, WITH ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORMS MAILED IN THE SPRING OF 2016. ALL CPN MEMBERS NATIONWIDE WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE TRIBAL BUDGET ON ELECTION DAY AS WELL AS THE OFFICE OF TRIBAL CHAIRMAN.



District 8 - Dave Carney

Bozho,

It's hard to believe that the 2016 holiday season is upon us. Many of the districts are having "Fall Feasts" in November, and in District 8 we are planning our own dinner get together November 12 in Portland. If you have not RSVP'd yet, please e-mail me at dcarney@potawatomi.org. You should have received a postcard about this event.

As we are wrapping up 2016 and making plans for 2017, many members are considering home ownership for the first time. In my work as a real estate broker in the Olympia, Washington area, I have come across a program that may be of interest to our members: the Section 184 loan guarantee program. I know of at least three CPN members who have successfully purchased homes or refinanced a home since I first wrote about the program.

This program was designed to provide access to mortgage financing to Native Americans. Section 184 home loans are guaranteed 100 percent by the Office of Loan Guarantee within HUD's Office of Native

American Programs. This guarantee encourages national and local banks to provide mortgage loans to Native Americans. The Office of Loan Guarantee works with a national network of lenders to increase Native access to home financing and to improve the value of Native investments.

Features of the program:

Low down payment: 2.25 percent on loans over \$50,000 and only 1.25 percent on loans under \$50,000.

Low interest rates: based on market rates, not on applicant's credit scores.

Manual underwriting: The program utilizes a hands-on approach to underwriting and approval opposed to automated decision-making tools.

Growing national network of approved lenders: The network of approved lenders includes national companies and local banks to suit your needs. The lenders have also been trained on the unique circumstances of Native homeownership.

No monthly mortgage insurance: a one-time, 1 percent up front guarantee fee is paid at closing and can be financed into the loan.

Protection from predatory lending: The program monitors the fees our approved lenders can charge Native borrowers. Section 184 loans cannot be used for Adjustable Rate Mortgages (ARMs).

Citizen Potawatomi Fall Feast

Saturday, November 12, 2016 - 5 to 8:30pm

All District 8 CPN members are welcome to an evening of family, food and fun!

The Nation will provide a roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings
Please bring a dessert to share if you'd like

Beverages supplied (this is a no alcohol event)

We will have presentations, Native American Art contest, and awards for our youngest and wisest enrolled members

Come be a part of your tribe and your district!

Native American Youth and Family Center
5135 NE Columbia Blvd, Portland, OR 97218

RSVP by October 31st with legislator Dave Carney at dcarney@potawatomi.org or (360) 259-4027

Knowledgeable staff: The staff understands the unique circumstances associated with lending on Native Lands and work with borrowers to achieve home ownership and to avoid default and foreclosure.

What Can I use the Section 184 Loan for?

Purchase an existing home.

Construct a new home (site-built or manufactured homes on permanent foundations).

Rehabilitate a home, including weatherization.

Purchase and rehabilitate a home.

Refinance a home to get a more favorable rate or pull cash out.

Section 184 loans can only be used for single family homes (1-4 units) and for a primary residence. Since 184

strives to increase homeownership to all Native communities, the guaranteed funds are reserved for primary residences rather than second or investment properties.

How do I know if I qualify?

Only enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe are eligible – that's *you*, CPN members!

Only some District 8 states are 100 percent eligible to use the program: Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota and Alaska. In Wyoming and Nebraska it is a county by county eligibility.

Where do I go to find out more?

Go to www.hud.gov and type in 184 in the search field.

Call a lender who has trained staff and who has qualified to

coordinate these programs. You can get a list off the HUD website, but I learned about the program through Wells Fargo Bank and I know they are all over District 8.

If you have not taken advantage of the Citizens Potawatomi Nation's one time grant program of \$2,125 toward closing costs or refinancing, now might be a perfect time in conjunction with this 184 program. Please remember that the grant does not apply to manufactured homes. Learn more about that CPN program at <http://cpn.news/1timegrant>.

I hope to see many members at the Fall Feast in Portland.

Dave Carney/Kagasghi
dcarney@potawatomi.org
360-259-4027



District 13 - Bobbi Bowden

Bozho Nikan,

After losing my father to complications from diabetes in May of this year, I would like to give some statistics on how it affects our people and relay information on the services our tribe provides to help manage this disease. It not only affects our elders, but also our youth.

In response to the diabetes epidemic in American Indian and Alaska Native people, Congress established the Special Diabetes Program for Indians through the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. The Diabetes Initiative Program is a coordinated effort to prevent amputations, kid-

ney failure, blindness, and heart disease in patients with diabetes.

Patients 18 years of age or older are eligible to enroll in our Beginning Education About Diabetes classes. BEAD consists of five sessions that help to empower you with knowledge about diabetes and provide you with the skills to manage it so that you can take control of your life.

According to the [2014 National Diabetes Report](#), the likelihood of American Indian and Alaska Native adults to have diagnosed diabetes is 15.9 percent compared to 7.6 percent non-Hispanic whites. That's more than twice the average.

The [American Diabetes Association](#) also notes a 68 percent increase in diabetes diagnoses for American Indian and Alaskan Native youth aged 15-19 from 1994-2004. This is likely why the ADA shows that 95 percent of AIAN that have the disease

suffer from type 2 diabetes. Another 30 percent are estimated to have pre-diabetes.

I know I did not realize the impact diabetes can have on all of the organs in our bodies. If not properly managed these are just a few of the affects it can have:

- Adults with diabetes have heart disease death rates about two to four times higher than adults without diabetes.
- The risk for stroke is two to four times higher among people with diabetes.
- Results from the Strong Heart Study suggest that the risk for CVD in American Indian adults with diabetes may be three to eight times higher than those without diabetes.

However, all of this can be overcome if managed properly. Our Nation offers many services to help. Just a few of the services offered are:

- Nurses, dietitians and a physical activity specialist
- Patient education (including insulin introduction)
- Eye exams
- Foot care
- Cooking demonstrations
- Assist patients in reducing heart disease risk
- Formulate exercise programs based on individual needs

These services can all be accessed through out CPN Health Services at the CPN Health Clinics, FireLake Wellness Center, the CPN Diabetes Program and the CPN Healthy Heart Program. They can all easily be accessed by calling the wellness center at 405-395-9304. The tools are available to us we just have to use them.



**Bobbi's father,
Eldon Leon Anderson.**

Wishing you all health and wellness!

It is an honor and a pleasure to serve you and our great Nation.

Migwetch,

Bobbi Bowden
Peshknokwe
District 13 Representative
bbowden@potawatomi.org

Juanita Lea Wagner Winton



Juanita Lea Wagner Winton, age 73, passed away, Sept. 15, 2016 in Austin, Texas. She was born April 3, 1943 to Arthur and Jessie Wagner in Vinita, Oklahoma.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband of 38 years: Gerald Ray Winton; sister: Patricia Highsmith; brother: Eugene Wagner.

She is survived by her daughter: Sherry Kay Winton Beavers and husband Joseph Beavers, along with their three children, Lauren, Katherine, and Jillian all of Austin; her son: Michael Shannon Winton and his two children, Preston and Kendal of Austin; her brother: Charles Wagner of Fort Worth, Texas; her sister: Linda Wagner Klaus of Tulsa, Oklahoma; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at Covenant United Methodist Church in Austin.

Howard Junior DeShazo



Howard Junior DeShazo of Waldron, Arkansas passed from this life, Aug. 9, 2016 in Waldron, Arkansas surrounded by his loving family. Howard was born June 16, 1951 in Bakersfield, California to Howard Clinton DeShazo and Norma Jean (Rush) DeShazo. Howard was 65 years, 1 month and 24 days old.

As a young man, Howard proudly served in the United States Army. He married the love of his life, Carmen Sneed DeShazo and they shared 47 years together. Howard loved his family. He enjoyed every precious memory made. He looked forward to family time and enjoyed being surrounded by loved ones. When Howard had a chance, he also loved to do wood working and to be working outside.

Howard leaves behind to cherish his memory, his loving wife: Carmen of the home; two daughters: Lori Dart and husband David of Texarkana, Texas and Gina L. Wilson and husband Richard of Brookland, Arkansas; one son: Clinton E. DeShazo and wife Mary Elizabeth of Waldron, Arkansas. Grandpa will forever remain in the hearts of his 18 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Howard will be missed by all that knew him and the many whose lives he impacted, including a host of friends, neighbors and loved ones.

Howard was preceded in death by his parents: Howard and Norma DeShazo.

Howard's life celebration was held on Aug. 12, 2016 at the Heritage Memorial Funeral Home Chapel in Waldron, Arkansas with Rev. Ed Hines officiating. Interment followed in the Freedom Cemetery, near Waldron, Arkansas. Arrangements were entrusted to the Heritage Memorial Funeral Home in Waldron, Arkansas.

Howard's pallbearers were Clinton DeShazo, Richard Wilson, Zachary Wilson, Allen Plowman, David Dart and Alex Carter.

Richard (Dick) Spencer



Richard (Dick) Spencer died on July 16, 2016 in Portland of age-related causes. He was 97 years old.

Mr. Spencer was born on June 14, 1919, the son of Richard Henry Spencer and Elizabeth (Bessie) Muller Spencer. He had lived in Lane County for nearly all his life, first in the Florence area and since 1938 in Noti and Elmira. In 2014, he moved to Portland to be closer to other family members.

He attended several one-room schools in western Lane County, ending with eight grade graduation from the Portage School on the North Fork of the Siuslaw River. Dick relocated to Noti in the late 1930s, where he worked for Forcia and Larson Lumber Company as a tree faller. He married Adelaide Marsh, on March 7, 1941 and the marriage lasted for nearly 74 years.

Dick was a World War II veteran, serving in France and Belgium in 1944-45. He was awarded the Purple Heart, having been wounded in combat, in addition to the bronze star and the French Croix de Guerre. He at-

tained the rank of Private First Class and qualified as Marksman with the M1 rifle.

In 1947, he joined with Martin Montgomery to form Montgomery and Spencer Logging Company. They operated in the Noti area, and later contract logged for Hult Lumber Company at Horton. After his family, logging and spending time in the woods were his great passions.

Dick was an active member of the Valley United Methodist Church in Veneta since 1959, serving in many volunteer leadership positions. He served on the Elmira Grade School Board in the 1950s and on the Sailor Pioneer Cemetery board.

Proud of his Native American heritage, Dick was recognized as the "wisest elder" attending the Citizen Potawatomi Nation District 8 summer gathering in Eugene in 2013. For this, he was awarded a sacred eagle feather and a blanket.

Mr. Spencer was preceded in death by his wife: Adelaide.

He is survived by his daughter: Anne Caputo of Alexandria, Virginia; son: David of Portland; grandsons: Chris Caputo and Jack Spencer; step-grandson: Rick Caputo; and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Daniela and Sam Babalai, Dick's caregivers for the last 18 months of his life, deserve special recognition for their devoted care of both Dick and Adelaide.

A funeral service was held on July 23, 2016 at Valley United Methodist Church, 25133 East Broadway Avenue, Veneta.

Richard David Dowdy



Richard David Dowdy, 69, of Boron, California, passed away on Sept. 4, 2016, surrounded by his daughters and his sister.

Richard was born in Long Beach, California, to James and Alberta Dowdy on January 8, 1947. They moved to Barstow while he was an infant. He graduated from Barstow High School in 1965.

He served in the U.S. Army 1966/1968 and was a Vietnam Veteran. He was a millwright and retired from U.S. Borax after 37 years of service.

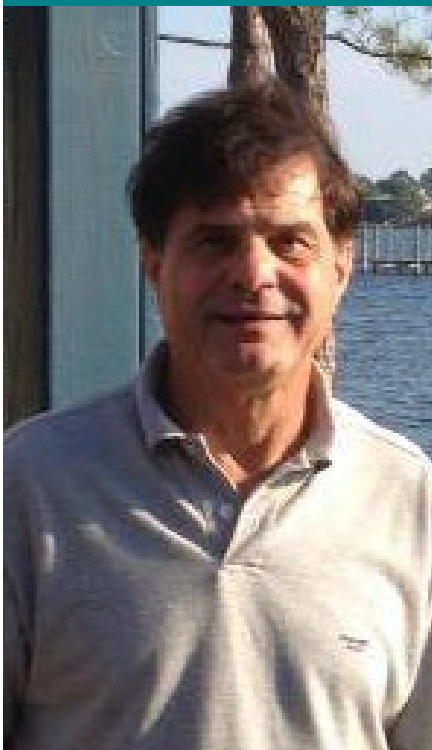
Richard was an avid outdoorsman. He loved to fish, hunt and camp. His favorite hunting and fishing buddy was his grandson Bradlee. They had a special bond and spent countless time together. He loved the many camping trips with his daughters and their families.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents.

Richard is survived by his wife: Nancy of Boron; his daughters: Cynthia Hathaway (Craig Mesler), Sarah Prado (Demetrius), all of Lancaster; grandchildren: Bradlee Hathaway, Darius and Alexa Prado; sister: Carolyn Atsye (Alvin) of Barstow; along with many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Memorial services were held on Sept. 20, 2016 at Meads Mortuary in Barstow, California.

Thomas Christopher Kambiss



Thomas Christopher Kambiss (Northern Star) was born Oct 12, 1953 in Hammond, Indiana and passed away Sept 12, 2016 in Holiday, Florida.

Tom was a singer, songwriter and composer of music. He was fun-loving, cherished his friends and family, and one of his greatest joys in life was attending concerts as frequently as possible. Tommy was very proud of his Potawatomi heritage and that he was a descendant of Josephine Castlebury.

He will be truly missed by his mother: Audrey Buchanan Kambiss; sister: Kathy Kambiss Naumann; daughter: Tammy Moreland; nieces: Jackie Bradley & Karen Vinter; nephew: Johnny White; and many cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his siblings: Peter Kambiss, Beverly Kambiss Wagner, Georgia Sroka; and father: Theodore Kambiss.

Roger Kenneth Melott



Roger Kenneth Melott was born on June 20, 1940 in Omaha, Nebraska to Mary Manima (Townsend) Melott and Frank Theodore Melott. Roger walked onto heaven Aug. 15, 2016, he was 76 years old.

Roger was the seventh child of Frank T. Melott. He is preceded in death by both parents, three half-sisters: Edith I. (Melott) Riser, Margaret (Melott) Byers, Dorothy (Melott) Kaspro-wick; two half-brothers: Franklin T. Melott and William W. Melott.

Roger was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribe of Shawnee, Oklahoma.

As a young man in 1956, Roger served in the 95th Reserves of the United State National Guard and earned the rank of Staff Sergeant of Shawnee, Oklahoma. He was honorably discharged in 1961.

Roger was a long time member of Pipe Liners Union #798, which he was a pipeline welder and inspector over 60 years. He traveled all over the United States for numerous pipeline, gas and oil jobs starting with the Alaskan Pipeline between 1967 through 1985.

Roger was lovingly known as "Big R" and "Chief." Roger loved to fish, camp, dance, have cook-outs, raising cattle, farming and tinkering around his workshop and barn.

In February 1958, he wed Barbara Sanders of Pink, Oklahoma. Four surviving children were created from this union: Justin Keith Melott and Sherry A. of Woodward, Oklahoma, Roger Allen Melott of Watonga, Oklahoma, Anthony Joe Melott and Tammy J. of Watonga and Juan and Rogina Melott Lopez of Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Roger and Barbara divorced in 1988. Roger has nine grandchildren, four step-grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren.

He is survived by wife of their home Donna Kay (Nelson) Melott, member of First Baptist Church in Buffalo, Oklahoma. They married on Dec. 24, 1989 in Las Vegas, Nevada. First, they resided in Mooreland, Oklahoma for a few years, and then in 1991 they moved to their life long residential community of Buffalo. Roger took up farming agriculture during their 27 years of marriage.

Roger is also survived by his other six siblings: Mary Powell of Shawnee, Myrtle M. Melott and Donald Shunk of Choctaw, Oklahoma, Lucille K. Melott and Lonnie Bishop of Gainesville, Texas, Lois L. Melott and Bill Williams of Lafayette, Lou-

isiana, Thomas C. and Pat Melott of Woodward and Frankie Sue Melott and Don Jones of Douglas, Kansas.

Roger Kenneth Melott received graveside military rites from the United States Army out of Fort Sill, Oklahoma and was laid to rest at Elmwood Cemetery in Woodward.

Anna Fern Bahner



Anna Fern Bahner, 93, a lifetime resident of rural Belvue, Kansas, passed away Thursday, Sept. 1, 2016 at Vintage Park of Wamego.

Ann was born April 19, 1923 in Wamego, Kansas, the daughter of Russell "Dick" Peddicord and Ida (Luttig) Peddicord. She graduated from Wamego High School in 1946. She worked for 43 years at First National Bank of Wamego, obtaining the position of Vice-President, before retirement in 1986. On Sept. 24, 1947, she married Alfred "Dutch" Bahner. He preceded her in death in 2007.

She was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Wells Creek until its closing, and then became a member of Peace Lutheran Church of Manhattan. She was also a former member of the Vermillion E.H.U., served as the area treasurer for American Heart Association and American Cancer Society. She also volunteered as a 4-H leader and teaching Sunday school for many years. She enjoyed attending K-State football games, watching sporting events and activities with her grandkids, and the occasional trip to the casinos.

Survivors include her daughter: Kathy Douglas and husband Denny of Wamego; her son: Kim Bahner and wife Candy of Belvue; her sister: Dorothy Vilven of Salt Lake City, Utah; four grandchildren: Kacy Seitz, Ashley Douglas, Kari Roberts, Tyson Bahner, and six great-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by a sister Juanita Chrest and a brother James Peddicord.

Funeral services were held Sept. 7, 2016 at the Stewart Funeral Home of Wamego, with burial following in Wamego City Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Peace Lutheran Church of Manhattan, or the American Cancer Society, and may also be left in care of the Stewart Funeral Home of Wamego, PO Box 48, Wamego, Kansas 66547.

Judith Ann VanVacter-Gadd



Judith Ann VanVacter-Gadd, 72, passed away Oct. 10, 2016. She was born Feb. 4, 1944 in Deerfield, Kansas. The daughter of Joe and Sybil Anderson.

Judy started her life in Deerfield, Kansas. The family spent a short time in Colorado, moved back to Deerfield, Kansas, and then moved to Cainsville, Missouri, where she lettered in basketball, graduated high school, met and married Jerry Gene VanVacter on May 12, 1962.

In 1964, they bought and moved into the house that she lived in until her death. She was a hard working mother, who was actively involved in scouts with three sons that are eagle scouts. She was a proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Judy retired from K-Mart Corporation. She worked at the Union Pacific Rail Road and was manager of the North Kansas City Pizza Hut, a waitress at Holiday Inn, American Inn and Shoney's, where she met and married Chuck Gadd in Branson, Missouri on Nov. 15, 2001. Judy retired from working in 2006. She enjoyed traveling with her family to Shawnee, Oklahoma every year for the Citizen Potawatomi family reunion. Judy also made it to Branson, Missouri, Hawaii, the Bahamas, Nashville, Tennessee and the Sequoia National Park in California.

Judy is survived by her husband: Charles Gadd; three sons: Jerry and

wife, Kellie VanVacter, Tracy and wife, Rhonda VanVacter, Christopher VanVacter; brother: James and Janet Anderson of Long Island, New York; three step sisters: Frances Skipton, Stella McGinn and Mary Sue Smith. She also leaves behind 10 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and her three dogs: Midnight, Cinnamon and Furbie.

She was preceded in death by her first husband: Jerry VanVacter, who passed away in March 1987. Judy was also preceded in death by her parents; stepmother: Ruth Anderson; two brothers: Charles and Frank Anderson; a sister: Laura Slattery; two step brothers: Warren and Gene Rigdon; and two step sisters: Reva Welch and Georgia Carter.

Funeral services were held on Oct. 15, 2016 at White Chapel Funeral Home.

JC Tinney



JC Tinney was born in Golden, Oklahoma to Jack and Josie Tinney on Nov. 21, 1932. He passed away Aug. 15, 2016 in Kinston, North Carolina.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Barbara, five children and their spouses, 12 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

JC was a man of honor who served his family and country well.

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with **no more than 300 words**, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to hownikan@potawatomi.org.

CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls

The \$2,000 CPN Burial Assistance Fund is automatically available to all enrolled CPN members. You may fill out a burial assistance fund form if you would like for us to keep it on file in case of any change in resolutions.

Please note: Once a CPN Tribal member has passed, the Tribal Rolls office must

be notified in order for CPN to provide burial funding. Information and instructions for the burial process will be sent to the next of kin and will be discussed then.

For more information please call Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email CClark@Potawatomi.org.